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30p
SAVE 15p

THE TIMES

No. 64,757 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24 1993 RK



Surprise Olympic defeat
for Peking bid hailed
as 'great victory for sport'

Sydney sinks Manchester Games dream

FROM JOHN GOODBODY IN MONTE CARLO

SPORT scored a remarkable victory over politics last night when the millennium Olympic Games were awarded to Sydney against every expectation. Peking, the short-odds favourite, were beaten into second place with Manchester third.

The decision was announced in Monte Carlo last night after an agonising wait while Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, opened an envelope with the name of the winner inside. "We regret that there is only one winner," Señor Samaranch said, and then

joyous scenes throughout Australia, which last hosted the Olympics in Melbourne in 1956. Millions of people attended all-night parties to while away the time until the announcement early in the morning local time.

The disappointment in the British camp was tempered by relief that the IOC members had backed world opinion by not granting the Games to Peking. Manchester put on a worthy presentation but its poor voting score suggests that a bid for the 2004 Games may now be off the agenda.

John Major made Manchester's keynote speech, telling delegates that after being out of the Games in 1908 and 1948, Britain deserved the chance to host the event.

The presentation, which also included stirring words from the Princess Royal, prompted Olympic sprint champion Linford Christie, who took his place on the bid platform, to insist afterwards: "If fairness prevailed, we should be celebrating now."

Sydney had always looked the most glamorous candidate and its technical bid was regarded as the best of the five candidates, which also included Berlin and Istanbul.

And, in the final lobbying, the Australian prime minister, Paul Keating, even outdid his 'friendly rival' Mr Major by spearheading a super-slick appeal to the IOC, while sharing

the spotlight with his wife Annita and an 11-year-old Sydney schoolgirl.

Delegates had to wait two-and-a-half hours for the outcome of the voting. Outside the Louis II stadium, Turkish planes released red smoke over the Mediterranean backing the Istanbul bid and Tibetans demonstrated in the street against the Chinese.

The Manchester disappointment leaves British Olympic Association officials with some hard decisions about whether to launch yet another bid for 2004 against increasingly stiff competition.

But the £500,000 worth of video material they put on show, just like the £5 million they have pumped into their whole bid, eventually counted for nothing in the winner-takes-all contest.

The bid's leader, Bob Scott, was left reflecting that they could have done no more. "We don't have that infuriating sense that we did not do our best," said the man who spent so much time pursuing this eight-year dream that his marriage broke up.

Sydney, which was mounting Australia's third successive bid, had widely been thought to be losing the big race in recent weeks after being the front runners for so long.

But IOC members, perhaps after the incomparable views of Sydney harbour had been shown on video, he



Sydney's Olympic presentation team in confident mood before the vote was declared in Monte Carlo last night

and facing intensive last-minute lobbying from the Sydney team, finally reverted to the most attractive option.

Mr Keating, clearly playing on fears of a politically-motivated Peking Games, told them pointedly that a Sydney Olympics would be a symbol of a "world of peace and friendship at the dawn of a new Millennium".

After the incomparable views of Sydney harbour had been shown on video, he added: "All Olympic nations will enjoy in safety both the Games and one of the most beautiful and exciting cities of the world."

His Dutch-born wife talked of the city's multi-cultural society, but the trump card may have been the surprise appearance of schoolgirl Tanya Blencowe, who said: "It would bring the young people of the world together."

The Chinese had been thorough from start to finish.

When Olympic officials visited Peking, citizens were ordered not to burn coal fires so that Peking's notorious smog would be reduced and the air would be clearer.

Yesterday, sensitive to the human rights argument, Chen Xitong, the chairman of China's Olympic organising committee who was mayor of Peking when the Tiananmen Square massacre took place, said that "hosting the 2000 Games will open our doors

still wider and promote the friendship and co-operation between the Chinese people and the people of the world."

But in the end the IOC preferred the safer, more glamorous option in spite of the loud and public support for Peking given by some of the committee's leading lights.

TOMORROW
IN THE TIMES

The Global Gourmet

"For years Frances Bissell kept diaries of all the meals she cooked. She developed a memory for tastes and flavours, which is still the basis of the originality and flair her recipes display."

● Collect part one of The Global Gourmet, Frances Bissell and Jane MacQuitty's full-colour guide to the world's best food and wine, tomorrow in the Times Magazine

NEXT WEEK

Sex and marriage

● Is marriage dead? How important is sex within marriage? Is there anything wrong with extra-marital sex, provided no one is hurt? On Monday The Times takes the pulse of the nation's changing attitudes

● As students start the new term, Monday's Times examines the confusion over university admissions this summer. Where did the race for places go wrong?

SALES OF THE TIMES

● Sales of The Times have continued to rise since the cover price was reduced to 30p. Last week the average audited daily sale was 469,611, an increase of 8,489, or 1.84 per cent, on the first week.

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spoke the single word "Sydney". Australian officials leapt in the air and hugged each other, while Chinese delegates stood unmoved and smiled politely.

Yet when the detailed voting figures emerged it was clear that although Manchester did badly on its own account, the city was the kingmaker. Peking led Sydney for the first three rounds of voting, by two, seven and three votes respectively.

Manchester scored much worse than expected, with 11, 13 and 11 votes in the three rounds. But when Manchester dropped out in the fourth round, eight of its 11 votes went to Sydney, enabling the Australian city to win by 45 votes to 43.

So the 2000 Olympic Games go to Sydney despite a huge lobbying campaign on behalf of Peking, not least involving key members of the IOC. However, the signs last night were that the IOC had backed off a potentially explosive clash with the West over China's human rights record. Sydney's triumph sparked

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Major refuses to 'patch up' ERM

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN Major moved to appease the Tory right last night by making plain that he would not allow the European Community to patch up the discredited European exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) next month.

He declared on his return from Monte Carlo that he would not allow the "Humpty-Dumpty" of the currency grid to be put back together again. Indicating that he would block attempts at the special EC summit meeting on October 29 to revive the ERM and move ahead on monetary union, he said: "I care too much about the EC to pursue Seltopape policies - patching together the unremediable - or to play the politics of illusion - pretending that it was never broken."

Mr Major's tough line, however, was in danger of being undermined by the disclosure that he has begun drawing up proposals for a successor to the system that collapsed last month. They are at an early stage, but they are designed to inject the stability required by

Short fails to make most of aggression

BY IAN MURRAY

NIGEL Short yesterday played his best and most aggressive game in The Times World Chess Championship so far but was nevertheless forced to accept another draw after a spirited final defence by Garry Kasparov.

Throughout the opening and middle stages of the game in the Savoy Theatre the British challenger kept

Yeltsin calls for presidential poll to thwart rivals

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin moved yesterday to consolidate his upper hand in the struggle for power in Russia by calling a presidential election for next June, two years before his term of office formally expires, and by seizing the assets of the disbanded parliament.

The rival president named by parliament, Aleksandr Rutskoi, called on Russians to rise against Mr Yeltsin in a campaign of civil disobedience, and the parliament defied Mr Yeltsin by convening an emergency meeting of the Congress of People's Deputies to impeach him.

Mr Yeltsin said that a new election would take place three years to the day after he was elected president of the Russian Federation. Underlining his relaxed approach to the confrontation, he joked with journalists about having to ask for a popular mandate for the third time, only five months after the April referendum confirmed him in office.

"It has turned out really inconveniently," he said. "But nevertheless, this is essential."

The move is intended to intensify the pressure on the challengers to his leadership. Mr Rutskoi and Russian Khasbulatov, the parliamentary Speaker, have claimed that Mr Yeltsin's call for new elections is a reconstituted parliament is a dictatorship to grab more power for himself. The defence ministry yesterday said it was prepared for an armed assault in case of a "provocation" by "parliamentary forces". All telephone links with the ministry were cut, allegedly because of repair work, but perhaps to prevent communication between parliament and military units that might support it. There were also rumours that the ministry phones had been sabotaged.

Viktor Chervomyrdin, the prime minister, ordered interior troops to reinforce police patrols in key cities and extra forces were stationed around the parliament building. Despite rumours of an imminent assault by presidential forces, there had been no attempt to drive out the deputies. But telephone communications from the building had been cut, and the president's office said it was preparing to cut water and electricity supplies to the White House.

Last night Mr Rutskoi, who had himself been sworn in by the Supreme Soviet as a rival president earlier this week, rejected Mr Yeltsin's election proposal and said he would not stand. He called for simultaneous elections for both presidency and parliament in February, and exhorted people to rise in civil disobedience against Mr Yeltsin. He stopped short of asking the army to take sides, but expected soldiers to make their voices heard.

Deputies from all over the country rushed to Moscow for an emergency Congress of People's Deputies convened by the parliamentary leadership with a view to impeaching Mr Yeltsin on page 15, col 6

BREITLING
1884

INSTRUMENTS
FOR PROFESSIONALS

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the world champion on the run by exploiting the advantage of playing White. Kasparov was obviously in deep trouble, wriggling in his chair as he struggled to find a way to escape the traps that Short was setting.

In the end, as Short again began to run into time trouble, Kasparov found a way to burst through the challenger's attack, finally forcing a draw by putting the white king into perpetual check.

The result leaves Short trailing 6-2 in the 24-game match.

Moves, analysis, page 8
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Economic optimism falls

By PETER RIDDELL

OPTIMISM about the economic outlook has declined to its lowest level for six months as public support for the government and for John Major personally shows no sign of recovering from its recent record low levels.

The latest MORI opinion poll for The Times suggests that the public is uncertain about the direction of the economy and about the

strength of the recovery. The index, measuring those expecting that economic conditions will improve rather than get worse, is now negative.

Party ratings are virtually becalmed, with only small month-to-month variations recorded. The Conservatives are currently on 29 per cent, Labour on 43 per cent, and the Liberal Democrats on 25 per cent.

Poll details, page 2

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraqi arms secrecy 'protected hostages'

Parliament should not be told about changes in government policy which could threaten vital national interests. William Waldegrave, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, told the Scott enquiry yesterday (Michael Dynes writes). He said that the lives of British hostages in Lebanon could have been put at risk by informing Parliament that the government had adopted a more flexible approach towards de-facto-related exports to Iraq after the 1988 Gulf war.

An announcement of the change could have been misinterpreted by the hostage-takers as a "far greater shift than it was". Mr Waldegrave, who is also the minister responsible for promoting more open government, said.

BR told to aid buy-outs

British Rail has been told it must provide more than £2 million to encourage its managers and employees to bid for the 25 franchises under privatisation plans. Roger Freeman, minister for public transport, confirmed yesterday that BR will be authorised to pay each management team up to £75,000 to enable them to meet the costs of making their bids. According to the transport department, 30 groups of BR managers and 50 private companies have so far said they are interested in operating services.

TA to lose more soldiers

Army chiefs recommended further cuts in the Territorial Army yesterday in line with reductions in Royal Navy and RAF reserve forces. The military is keen to avoid substantial cuts because it sees an important future for the TA in the restructuring of the armed forces. The force has 63,500 part-time soldiers.

Halifax asks for tax help

The country's largest building society yesterday warned the government not to jeopardise the recovery in the housing market by eroding tax benefits for homeowners in the budget. Jon Foulds, Halifax chairman, said: "It is vital that the government does nothing to damage a housing market which remains extremely anaemic." Profit rise, page 26

Cat VC fetches £23,000

The Dickin Medal awarded to Simon, right, ship's cat on board HMS *Ameryst* during its escape from Chinese gunners down the Yangtze in 1949, made £23,000 at auction in London yesterday. The only so-called animal VC awarded to a cat was expected to fetch up to £5,000 but there was fierce bidding. It was bought by Eton Films, which is making an animated series about animal heroes.



Labour MP taken ill

Dale Campbell-Savours, Labour MP for Workington, has been admitted to St Bartholomew's hospital, London, with chest pains. The hospital said last night that he was in a comfortable condition and would remain there for further tests. His agent, Eric Kay, said that the 50-year-old MP had been overworking.

Official glad tidings fail to stem economic pessimism

By PETER RIDDELL

THE public has become more pessimistic about the outlook for the economy over the next year despite recent official figures pointing to the beginnings of recovery.

The economic optimism index in the latest MORI poll for *The Times*, conducted last weekend, is now at its lowest level for six months. The index measures the number thinking the general economic condition of the country will improve rather than get worse over the next 12 months. The proportion expecting an improvement has dropped steadily since the spring, from a peak of 39 per cent in April to 26 per cent now. The number expecting conditions to get worse has risen over the same period from 25 to 34 per cent. Consequently, the index measuring

the balance of optimists and pessimists now stands at minus eight points, the lowest level since March, compared with plus 14 points in April.

The recent monthly figures of small positive or small negative ratings suggest that the public is uncertain about the direction of the economy, and does not have much confidence in the strength of recovery. Middle class and Tory voters remain clearly optimistic on balance, while working class and Labour voters are definitely pessimistic. Younger people are also less pessimistic than older ones and optimism rises the further south you move in Britain.

The fall in unemployment during the spring and early summer, only partially reversed over the past two months, has been reflected in a continuing decline in the number of people

mentioning unemployment as among the most important issues facing Britain today. But, at 61 per cent, the issue is still well ahead of any other. The next in order are the health service and the economy, mentioned by 32 per cent each, followed by law and order, noted by 29 per cent.

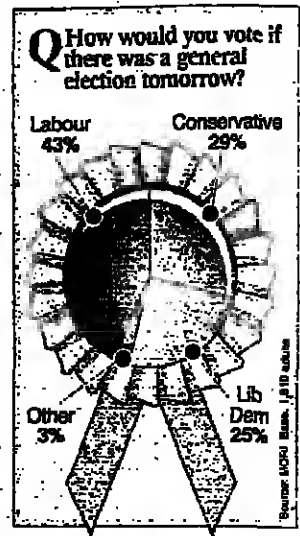
Public support for the government and for John Major personally shows almost no sign of recovering from its recent near-record low levels. The Tories now stand at 29 per cent, against 43 per cent for Labour and 25 per cent for the Liberal Democrats. From the Tory point of view, the most that can be said is that the sharp declines of the first few months of this year seem to have stopped and that support is bumping along the bottom. That also applies to Mr Major's own rating. Twenty per cent are now

satisfied with the way he is doing his job as prime minister, up a point from the mid-summer low, while 70 per cent remain dissatisfied.

Labour has failed to achieve a fresh advance and the main beneficiaries have been the Liberal Democrats, who have consolidated their overall support. Paddy Ashdown continues to enjoy a sizeable positive rating.

MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,819 adults at 143 constituency snaphopping points across Britain. Interviews were conducted face-to-face on September 16 to 23. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (9 per cent), are undecided (7 per cent) or refuse to name a party (3 per cent). © MORI/The Times

Major wows right, page 1
Lib Dem conference, page 10



Papal rejection of birth control 'will cause exodus'

By RUTH GLEOHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Pope's condemnation of contraception as "intrinsically evil" will lead to "the defections of myriads of the 800 million faithful", leading members of the Roman Catholic Church said last night.

The Pope is unyielding in his disapproval of birth control, homosexuality, abortion, adultery and sexual perversion in his new encyclical *Veritatis Splendor* (The Splendour of Truth), leaked to *The Times* this week.

Campaigners who waged a war of words against Humanae Vitae, the 1968 encyclical which condemned contraception as "intrinsically wrong", joined the growing number who said that *Veritatis Splendor* is an attempt by the church to turn the clock back.

Liberal and orthodox Catholics were, however, united in welcoming the encyclical's defence of traditional values against what is perceived as a rising tide of moral laxity in both religious and the secular life in the West.

In the encyclical, the Pope quotes from the same paragraph in Pope Paul VI's *Humanae Vitae* which condemns contraception.

He says: "With regard to intrinsically evil acts, and in

■ The Pope's unyielding stand against moral laxity has been welcomed, and his line on infallibility received with relief

reference to contraceptive practices whereby the conjugal act is intentionally rendered infertile, Pope Paul VI teaches, "Though it is true that it is sometimes lawful to tolerate a lesser moral evil in order to promote a greater good, it is never lawful, even for the gravest reasons, to do evil that good may come of it."

Catholics expressed relief that the Pope has backed down on infallibility in the final version, after a draft leaked last month threatened to extend the "charism of infallibility" to the church's magisterium, or teaching authority, when it claims a doctrine of faith or morals is binding.

In what is considered a victory for Vatican liberals, the final version, extracts of which were published in *The Times* yesterday, declared the church's moral teaching to be binding on bishops, theologians, priests and laity, but did not mention infallibility.

But the encyclical, to be published on October 3, makes it clear that dissent will not be tolerated.

Dr John Wijngaards, a lead-

ing Catholic theologian, of Housotop, a Christian resources centre in London, said: "I would say it is wrong to argue that contraception is intrinsically evil. The natural law involved here is the requirement to respect life and love. In that context it may be that the use of contraception does not go against a respect for life and love."

Mary Ann Rossi, a research scholar at London University and a founder member of the Coalition for the Ordination of Catholic Women, said the statements on birth control presented "a lucid and cogent reason for the disaffection of myriads of the 800 million faithful today. There is no acknowledgement of the worldwide epidemic of Aids presently affecting all of us. Contraception is a *sine qua non* relief from this plague."

But the encyclical was defended by Valerie Riches, founder of the orthodox Association of Catholic Women. She said: "I think the Catholic Church is the only church that has stayed the course and held by everything it has said previously."



Sir Richard, whose resignation would force another tricky by-election

Tory rebel may stand down

SIR Richard Body, believed to be one of the rebel Tory MPs described as "barney" by John Major, is considering resigning his seat and creating another difficult by-election for the government (Andrew Pierce writes).

Sir Richard, 66, a senior Euro-sceptic backbencher, has been offered a lucrative publishing deal by a company specialising in books on Europe. If he accepts, he would resign as MP for Holland with Boston.

Despite the prime minister's open antipathy towards Sir Richard, who said last week that he believed Mr Major would soon resign, the last thing the government can afford, after the disasters of Newbury and Christchurch, is another by-election.

Sir Richard, a former barrister and pig breeder, is said to have suffered losses as a

Lloyd's name. He has represented Holland with Boston since 1966 and first entered the Commons in 1955 as MP for Billericay. He has written five books on Europe and the environment and was offered the deal on Tuesday by Adamantine Press, which is based in London.

"It is a very tempting offer which I am considering," Sir Richard said yesterday. "I am very fond of my constituents and my constituency. I don't know if I want to be a nuisance to them by causing a by-election."

He says that he intends to make a decision within the next week and that, if he accepts the contract, he would have to stand down. At the last general election, Labour came second in Holland with Boston, reducing the Conservative majority by 5,000 to 13,800.

Education leak puts pressure on Labour

By BEN PRESTON
AND JOHN O'LEARY

LABOUR disarray over higher education was exploited yesterday as John Patten, the education secretary, published a leaked Opposition document which said a "corporate levy" on industry might provide extra funds for expansion.

The discussion paper suggests alternatively that Labour might raise additional cash by dropping its longstanding support for free higher education and charging full-time students tuition fees. A third option is to raise taxes.

The embarrassing leak increased the pressure on Ann Taylor, shadow education spokeswoman, as she struggled to convince backbench critics of her credentials. Mrs Taylor was forced on Tuesday to postpone the launch of the controversial higher education chapter in Labour's consultative green paper after a bitter internal wrangle.

The party's joint policy committee ordered the paper be redrafted amid fears that public discussion of options might upset middle-class voters. Labour was anxious to court. Both parties and the universities are engaged in a game of cat and mouse to avoid being the first to propose an end to free higher education.

Campaigners against opting-out yesterday stole a march on John Patten, the education secretary, by announcing that the milestone of the 1000th school to win parental backing for grant-maintained status has been passed. Local Schools Information, an advisory group funded by local authorities, said votes by parents supporting the switch at two schools took the total into four figures.

CORRECTION

Employees of David S Smith (Holdings) plc raised £250,000 for the Royal National Society for the Blind, not £25,000 as incorrectly reported in a Focus feature on September 17.

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Sex offender denied castration warns of danger to children

By JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES
CORRESPONDENT

A PERSISTENT sex offender whom doctors have refused to castrate surgically has said the decision will leave children at risk.

The man, aged 59, has been repeatedly imprisoned for offences against children, including his own. On the last occasion he was imprisoned for ten years but is now free and living in south London.

Malcolm Alexander, chief officer of Southwark community health council, which is handling the complaint, says the man, referred to as Mr K, first requested surgical castration while in prison and was supported by the prison doctor. He is judged mentally capable of giving consent but no surgeon will carry out his wishes.

"Mr K has perhaps another 20 years in front of him," Mr Alexander says in tomorrow's *British Medical Journal*. "I wonder whether the indecisiveness of the medical establishment will create a living hell for dozens more children while it refuses to accept Mr K's own extreme solution."

Doctors offered Mr K the drug goserelin to reduce his sex drive chemically but he refused it because it was a temporary solution. "He wants a permanent solution to

■ A health council chief fears a decision by the medical establishment will create "a living hell for dozens more children"

stop his abusive behaviour so that he can start a normal life," Mr Alexander writes.

"He has threatened suicide. He has been on hunger strike and contemplated castrating himself."

Surgical castration reduces sex drive but does not always extinguish it. One study of 35 sex offenders castrated in Germany found that 11 were still able to have sexual intercourse. A Danish study found that between 2 and 3 per cent of castrated sex offenders continued to offend.

Surgical castration is not now performed in any western European country for ethical reasons, according to Professor John Gunn, head of forensic psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry in Camberwell, south London. "The operation is mutilating and there is the distinct risk that it could be carried out coercively," he says in a commentary on the case in the *BMJ*.

Dr David Cook, consultant senior lecturer in mental health at the University of Bristol, says in another commentary that there may be a case for surgical castration when psychological or chemi-

cal methods have failed, although it is "not a panacea".

Dr Pamela Taylor, head of medical services at the special hospitals service authority responsible for Broadmoor and the other high-security mental hospitals, says that Mr K's request reveals the depth of his anger. "When there are other treatments available, only a very angry man would demand of a doctor that he or she should inflict major, irreversible mutilations on him while also attempting to make the doctor responsible for much more worse if he or she does not."

The most shocking aspect of the case, she says in a third *BMJ* commentary, is that it is necessary to demand castration to attract medical attention for deviation. "This is not the story of a man for whom all treatments had been tried and failed. It seems he has previously only been punished — and that has certainly failed to prevent his reoffending."

Mr Alexander said last night: "One could argue that Mr K will almost inevitably reoffend. Someone who has abused children all his life is unlikely to stop."

Campbell sacked by US agency amid tales of tantrums

By LOUISE HIDALGO
AND KATE MUIR

LEADING figures in Britain's fashion industry yesterday came to the defence of the supermodel Naomi Campbell after she was sacked by her American agency because of her alleged abusive manner and tantrums.

Alexandra Shulman, editor of *Vogue*, said she had always found Campbell easy to work with and charming. "Models swap agencies all the time and I think this is another example," she said.

Elite, Campbell's model agency in New York, issued a statement explaining why they had fired the 23-year-old from Streatham, south London, who earns more than £1 million a year. "No amount of money or prestige could further justify the abuse that has been imposed on our staff and clients. All who have experienced this will understand," it said.

Tales of Campbell's alleged bad behaviour abound. Reports from night clubs of jealous tantrums and even hair-pulling appear every few months in the tabloid gossip columns. Her boy friends were said to have included the actor Robert de Niro and the boxer Mike Tyson and she is now engaged to Adam Clayton of the rock group U2. In May, she was said to have been heard at a Paris fashion shoot shouting down a portable phone to an unidentified man: "Marry me or buy me a building."

Campbell's supporters yesterday claimed that Elite issued the damning statement because the model was about to defect to a rival agency. Elite Premier, her London agency, which is a partner of the American firm, said she had never used foul language or been unco-operative during the two years it had worked with her and that it would continue representing her.

Carole White, the agency's managing director and a friend of Campbell, said: "I have always found Naomi delightful to work with. I cannot comment on what



Naomi Campbell serene on the catwalk, but her alleged temper is renowned

may have happened in the States."

Even the most well-behaved and modest models could be under threat after a decision by the Council of Fashion Designers of America, which includes Calvin Klein, Donna Karan and representatives of Ralph Lauren, to cut fees for catwalk

modelling. After a secret meeting, it told model agencies that it was considering a \$250 (£165) per hour ceiling on fees. At present, models in America can command up to \$20,000 (£13,250) for a show.

British designers, who are less able to afford the high fees that top models demand, yesterday welcomed the

news. "Like everything manufactured in the eighties, the bubble has burst," Bruce Oldfield said.

Caroline Charles said: "These girls are the last of the 1980s image of speed, spend, spend. If there is to be recovery from the recession, we have to have reasonable costs."

Teacher accused of gagging pupils

By BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A JUNIOR school teacher has been suspended after parents complained that she gagged pupils with sticky tape to keep a noisy class quiet.

They claimed that most of the 30 children aged nine and ten sat for 20 minutes with their mouths sealed with plastic tape after ignoring their teacher's call for silence.

Governors, police and social services are investigating the alleged incident last Wednesday at William Martin Junior School in Harlow, Essex. The teacher, Gurdeep Sagoo, has been sent home pending the outcome of the enquiry.

It is alleged that Mrs Sagoo taped several children's mouths and then told the class: "If you don't be quiet I'll tape you too." Most children allowed her to stick the tape on their mouths although some did it for themselves.

One pupil said: "The teacher put brown tape over our mouths because we were making a noise. I thought it was funny, but it hurt a bit when she took it off."

His mother said: "He told me what had happened. But he wasn't bothered about it. It was just a joke really."

But another parent said: "When some of them became afraid and tried to remove the tape she shouted and upset many of the children. It left me fuming and worried for the safety of my child."

Peter Wilton, the head teacher, said the alleged incident began lightheartedly. "Some of the children thought it was a great joke. Some were asking to be taped. Others refused because they thought it was inappropriate."

He added: "I don't think it was a joke. I'm treating it very seriously. This was in direct conflict with all that we stand for in this school."

Sgt Tony Sale, of Essex police, said one child might have suffered a cut lip when the tape was allegedly pulled off. "I am looking at an allegation referred to us by the social services. We are going to investigate and will interview the children in that class."

Mrs Sagoo, 38, a teacher at the school for two years, refused to comment.

Coroner praises shot tourist

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE quiet courage of Margaret Jagger, the British tourist who saw her boy friend shot dead by a gang of muggers in Florida last week and was wounded herself, was praised yesterday.

James Turnbull, the coroner for West Yorkshire, was opening the inquest on Gary Colley, who was fatally wounded as the couple slept in their parked hire car in the early hours of September 14. He said: "I should like to commend Miss Jagger for her courage, as I have seen it in media reports, and in being

very willing to give a lengthy statement to the coroner's officer into the events that must have caused her great distress."

Miss Jagger, 35, a civil servant and Mr Colley, 34, a mechanical engineer, had shared a home at Wilsden, West Yorkshire, for several years.

PC David Morton, the coroner's officer, told the inquest at Bradford that Mr Colley's cause of death was gunshot wounds to the neck and chest. He said the couple were taking a short break in a rest

area on Interstate Highway 1 near Monticello, Jefferson County. "They were both awakened to find a young black man stood, one at each side of the car, tapping on the windows."

"Mr Colley immediately tried to drive away and as he did so shots were fired into the car causing the injury from which he died at the scene."

The hearing was adjourned indefinitely and the coroner issued a certificate allowing Mr Colley's funeral to go ahead in Shipley, West Yorkshire, today.

Queen's confidante Bobo dies aged 89

By ALAN HAMILTON

MARGARET Macdonald, the oldest and longest-serving member of the Queen's household, who entered royal service soon after Princess Elizabeth was born in 1926, has died at Buckingham Palace aged 89. The Queen, who is holidaying at Balmoral, was said to be deeply saddened at the death of a woman described as her closest confidante.

Miss Macdonald, nicknamed "Bobo", held a unique position in the royal household: she had her own suite in Buckingham Palace and was waited on by staff after retiring three years ago.

Douglas Keay, author of *Elizabeth II*, said last night: "Bobo Macdonald was the only person in the palace who could talk to the Queen on equal terms. People have recoiled in shock at her straight-talking with her sovereign."

Miss Macdonald, born in 1904 in Cromarty, Highland, was hired by the then Duchess of York, now Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. As nunserymaid, she shared a bedroom with the future queen till she was 11. She later became her dresser.

Palace officials said last night that they expected a private funeral to take place next week, but it was not known whether the Queen would attend.



Macdonald: began royal service in 1924

KGB defector tells court the secrets of Russian spycraft

By RICHARD DUCE

THE high-ranking KGB defector Oleg Gordievsky gave the Old Bailey an insight yesterday into the workings of the Russian secret service.

Mr Gordievsky, believed to be the first former foreign spy to give evidence in open court, said that the KGB formed a department specifically to acquire Western science and technology, particularly where it had a military use. He said that the T directorate, set up in the 1960s, was the "important and probably most powerful section of the KGB. It was responsible for stealing Western technological and scientific secrets with a military application."

The former KGB major, 53, was giving evidence on the fourth day of the trial against Michael Smith, who is alleged to have sold secrets to the Russians while working at the GEC research centre in north-west London.

Mr Gordievsky, deputy head of the KGB station in London between 1982 and 1985, told how the KGB operated with Russians on false British papers. Other agents posed as journalists and trade delegates. His work involved the recruiting and running of agents, the use of dead letter boxes and methods to avoid counter-surveillance by arranging meetings in open spaces.

Mr Gordievsky said that he became disillusioned with communism in 1975 and contacted British intelligence. He operated as a double agent for the next ten years until the KGB discovered his role and returned him to Moscow, where he was interrogated



Oleg Gordievsky giving evidence at the Old Bailey

under drugs. In July, 1985 he defected to Britain.

He was giving evidence as an expert witness to reveal espionage tradecraft. It is alleged that the KGB sent Mr Smith on a course to Portugal in 1977 and that a map found in his flat bore marks connected with such tradecraft.

The prosecution alleges that Mr Smith, 45, of Kingston upon Thames, was recruited by the KGB colonel Viktor

Oshenko in the early 1970s. He was arrested after Mr Oshenko's defection in July last year. After his arrest, it is alleged that Special Branch officers found documents in his car relating to the "Star Wars" space defence research and the Rapier missile system.

Mr Smith denies four charges under the Official Secrets Act. The trial, before Mr Justice Blofield, continues today.

Muggers risk catching Aids

By LIN JENKINS

POLICE yesterday urged two muggers to seek medical advice after they attacked a man dying of Aids. The victim, who was bleeding heavily, believes that he cut one of his attackers on the face as he hit out in self-defence.

West Midlands police said it was possible that some of the victim's blood could have splattered the attackers as he

was repeatedly kicked and punched in an underpass in Birmingham city centre while filming with a video camera mounted on a tripod.

The attackers ran off with the £1,100 camera, but not before one of them had been struck in the face with the tripod.

The victim, 35, said that he had recently developed Aids

after being HIV-positive for five years. He added: "One of them punched and kicked me in the face to try and make me let go of the video camera. He had blood all over his hands and a cut to his head where I had hit him with the tripod. If he rubbed the side of his head with his hands when he had my blood on it he could be in big trouble."

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'I looked away and, when I looked back, I saw her on the ground', younger sister tells coroner

Teenage rider killed in fall from pony despite safety helmet

BY LIN JENKINS

A TALENTED teenage rider, whose ambition was to follow in the footsteps of equestrian Virginia Leng, died in a fall from her pony despite wearing a protective riding hat.

Zoe Nesbitt, 15, who was featured earlier this year in a television documentary about the Pony Club, was practising in a field near her home, at Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, when she fell.

An inquest at Oxford coroners' court was told that her younger sister Jo had put up a series of practice jumps and was mounting her own pony when the accident happened.

In a statement read by Nicholas Gardiner, the Oxford coroner, Jo, 13, said: "Zoe had taken about six jumps and, as I got onto my horse, I saw she was about to jump a 3ft 3ins high table fence. I looked away and, when I

looked back, I saw her on the ground. She was lying near the jump on her back with her knees up.

"I think the horse must have cleared the fence but not landed properly. She was thrown to the left of the horse on the ground. Zoe was wearing her skull cap. Neither of us felt safe if we were not wearing our helmets."

Jo said her sister's chestnut gelding, called Scrumpy, was a "perfect" horse who never put a foot wrong. She rode to a nearby house to call an ambulance and then on to find their trainer, Nicola Inglis.

Mrs Inglis arrived at the field and tried to revive Zoe. Mrs Inglis said: "I could see lots of blood and tried to give her artificial respiration. I had to loosen her chin strap to do so. It was fitting normally. She was wearing one of the best

hats available. Her parents would not have bought her anything else."

Mrs Inglis told the hearing that the horse was very reliable and the mount and rider well suited. Zoe was a good rider who did not take chances and, since the jump on examination showed no signs of being hit, the horse must have stumbled on landing, catapulting Zoe to the ground.

Zoe's mother Jane told the inquest of her daughter's enthusiasm for riding. "She was a very experienced rider and had been riding since she was three years old," she said. Scrumpy had been with them for a year and had not been known to stumble before.

Dr Godman Greywoode, pathologist, said Zoe died from fractures to the base of her skull after a considerable blow to the side of her head.



Zoe Nesbitt was an experienced rider and her horse was described as "perfect"

"Zoe was wearing a helmet, but no helmet can protect from such a blow," he said. "The design at the moment means there is protection from the front to the back, but not from side to side."

Mr Gardiner recorded a verdict of accidental death and

said: "I can only conclude that Scrumpy, an otherwise perfect horse, had stumbled after taking that jump as any horse does from time to time."

There was no suggestion that the horse had kicked the girl. Zoe, who was a member of the Heythrop Hunt branch

of the Pony Club, had been practising for her first British Horse Society junior regional novice competition, which she was due to take part in the Saturday after her death, on April 21. She had competed in Pony Club teams and hoped for a career as an event rider.

Injuries prompt safer-hat search

BY LIN JENKINS

THE failure of protective riding hats to prevent death or severe injury in certain types of fall has prompted a review of safety standards.

The British Horse Society (BHS) and the British Standards Institution (BSI), which sets the standard for hats, are examining ways of improving them. Their move comes as concern over safety appears to be overcoming conservatism among riders on grounds of fashion and price.

At present hats meet one of two standards: BS6473 for horse and pony riders, covering shock absorption, penetration resistance and strength of the retention system; and BS4472 for the jockey skull cap, which lays down requirements appropriate for accidents common at speed and in professional riding.

Independent tests carried out by the Mark Davies Injured Riders Fund found that hats offered inadequate protection against some types of fall.

Dr John Lloyd Parry, medi-

cal adviser to the International Equestrian Association (IEA) and chairman of the BHS health and safety committee, said: "The question of hat safety is very high profile at the moment because of the tests done by the fund. There is a lot of effort being put in as to how to improve hats. We are aware that present hats are not as they should be."

He will chair a meeting on November 18 of all interested parties, including manufacturers and equestrian organisations, to consider proposals for change. The BSI committee on riding hat standards is also examining the problem.

The manufacturers have argued that the market will not stand the cost of improving hats and that riders would not wear anything similar to a motorcycle helmet. But with a study of 1,500 riding accidents in the West Midlands last year showing that a third of them involved head or facial injuries, many in equestrianism believe that a new standard is vital.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Children smuggled into Britain

Ethiopian children are being smuggled into Britain and left on the doorstep of a London community centre at night to escape the civil war.

More than a hundred children from 8 to 16 have been found during the past ten months at the Tabernacle Community Centre, Kensington, which houses an Ethiopian help line. They are met at Heathrow by couriers from the local Ethiopian community who take them to the centre, and then foster homes are found for them.

Keyet Makonnen, who runs the help line, said: "There is little chance that these children will see their parents again. They are tense, in tears, shaking and sweating."

Murder charge

David Ayres, 46, of Blaby, Leicestershire, was remanded in custody for a week by magistrates, accused of murdering David Dyson, 15, who was run over while fleeing from an allegedly stolen car.

Soldier killed

A Black Watch soldier has died after falling into a ravine while on exercise in Hong Kong. Pte John Borthwick, 23, from Kirkcaldy, Fife, had been married only eight weeks.

Wizard held

A black magic wizard was being questioned yesterday after a policeman was shot with an air rifle when he disturbed an occult ceremony in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Crane death

A man died and four suffered shock when their crane touched a power cable while they were working on the M20 near Maidstone, Kent.

Mini marvel

A baby born in the back of a hatchback has been christened Metro by his parents, Lyn Sowden and Keith Newman, of Oakdale, Gwent.

Champion mother jumped to her death

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A WOMAN who had been named mother of the year neatly arranged fresh clothes for her three children minutes before she threw herself in front of an express train.

Hazel Clark, 30, committed suicide after failing in two relationships, an inquest jury at Bishop Auckland, co. Durham, decided yesterday. She won the regional newspaper competition two months before her death.

The inquest was told how Mrs Clark, from Crook, and her husband were divorcing. She had found a new partner, Kenneth Evans, but split up with him.

Mr Evans, who lives at Ferryhill Station, close to where she died, told the jury: "We had a fall-out and I told her not to come back when she started threatening friends of mine. She kept calling on the phone and cut her wrists a couple of times."

"I spoke to her the day before her death and asked her if I needed to get an injunction to keep her away. She said no and that I would never see her again."

Soon after, Mrs Clark wrote a suicide note on a gate post near the main line before jumping to her death.

Colin Penna, the South Durham coroner, said: "It appears this lady developed an infatuation and did not wish the relationship to be terminated."



Clark threw herself under an express train

Pupils switch on to more than television

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE IMAGE of goggle-eyed children sitting glued to the television is demolished in the biggest survey of youth consumer behaviour and attitudes in Britain.

The survey of 6,400 children aged 7 to 19 shows that although more than 20 per cent of them watch five hours or more of television a day, most read three to four non-school books a month. Even though older children read less, those aged between 15 and 19 still manage one book a month.

The figures, produced by the British Market Research Bureau, will enable advertisers to catch youth trends as they emerge. They also provide an insight for broadcasters about the kind of programmes youngsters want.

One of the most significant findings is the degree of visual and technological

literacy of today's young generation. Ninety-seven per cent of seven to ten-year-olds regularly use a computer. One in seven children play on video game consoles.

These latest findings lend credence to a growing belief that although children are watching more television than adults - five hours a day, against an average of four for the population as a whole - they are doing so in a different way. Video replay now accounts for one seventh of their viewing.

Among existing programmes, Channel 4's *Crystal Maze*, a problem-solving game show, is the favourite of seven to ten-year-olds. Those aged 11 to 14 prefer BBC's situation comedy *Birds of a Feather*. The preferred programme of those aged 15-19 is *Casualty*, BBC's hospital drama.

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Forensic scientists confirm the truth behind Sir Roger Casement's diary of gay encounters

Martyr to Ireland's cause is proved to be homosexual

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

AN ENDURING myth of 20th century Irish folklore will have to be revised after proof that one of the republic's greatest heroes was a practising homosexual.

The riddle of whether the British authorities forged parts of Sir Roger Casement's diaries has been solved by scientists authenticating the graphic descriptions of sexual encounters with men.

"The diaries are absolutely genuine and written in Casement's hand," Nigel Acheson, editor of BBC Radio 4's *Documentary* programme, said. The makers of the programme, broadcast last night, were allowed to have the diaries scientifically tested to determine if they were genuine.

He said entries disclosed sexual encounters with men, descriptions of young men admired by Casement and others that made clear references to a sex act taking place. "Very often he has put 'XX' against a name or location. This is a code for sex having taken place," Mr Acheson said.

Although the Irish republic has long been known for its tolerance of homosexuality, the disclosure that one of nationalist Ireland's most re-

vered martyrs was homosexual will still come as a shock to many people. Homosexuality remains a sin in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church.

Casement, a member of the Protestant establishment, was sentenced to death for treason by the British in 1916 after he tried to raise support in Germany for a free Ireland. To the British, he was a gung-ho civil servant who conspired with Germany during the first world war, but to Irish nationalists he was, and remains, a true patriot.

A campaign for clemency began on both sides of the Atlantic after his conviction but this was silenced when pages torn from the diaries, detailing two years of homosexual activity in three continents, were leaked in America and Britain. Support for Casement collapsed and he was hanged at Pentonville prison on August 3, 1916.

There has been a long-held suspicion in Ireland that the forgeries were concocted by the British and that Casement was a victim of perfidious Albion and her "dirty tricks".

David Baxendale, a forensic scientist, has examined diaries

stored in the National Library in Dublin and pages from those held by the Home Office to establish the authenticity of entries. Any false entries would have been contemporaneous, so materials and inks were not tested.

He examined a number of entries, including one for December 2, 1910, that contained clear homosexual references. Mr Baxendale, who studied the diaries for the programme, also looked at entries for 1911 that catalogued sexual encounters in South America, Paris and Northern Ireland.

Casement's remains were released from Pentonville prison in north London in 1965 and re-interred with full honours in Dublin. President Eamon de Valera, the republic's revered leader but no liberal, gave the oration at the ceremony. He said: "This grave like those others will become a place of pilgrimage. Our young people will come here and get renewed inspiration... everyone must believe that a man who did so much, who was so unselfish, who worked so hard for the down-trodden... that man is in heaven."



Casement: a true patriot and martyr to Irish nationalists, who wrongly believed that the British authorities forged his diary to slur him



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Psychological Society

Jobs give people most satisfaction

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THERE is nothing like work to keep you satisfied, a British Psychological Society conference in Oxford was told yesterday. Unemployed people often try to obtain the same sense of satisfaction by working hard at their leisure but without complete success, Dr John Haworth, of Manchester University, said.

The trouble with leisure, he found, was that there was no supervisor forcing you to do things you would rather avoid. Overcoming a reluctance to carry out tasks that were unpleasant led to much satisfaction with work.

Dr Haworth's studies are based on Professor Marie Jahoda's theory that, apart from the financial rewards, work promotes happiness by providing workers with a time-structure, social contacts, a collective purpose, a sense of identity and more regular activity.

Research among young unemployed people has shown that these benefits can be obtained outside work, usually by more work-like and active leisure pursuits, and that those who take part in them are generally happier and feel more positive about themselves. However, the rewards still fall short of real work.

The difference is motivation. At work, there is little choice but to persist with tasks that would otherwise have been given up, and this ultimately produces a sense of satisfaction and wellbeing. Leisure, which is self-motivated, is seldom able to produce the same results.

Among managers, a sense of collective purpose and status are the most important routes to high self-esteem. During leisure time, active pursuits are most often linked to being satisfied with life.

Dr Haworth concludes that much of the frustration resulting from unemployment can be mitigated, but many things about work are difficult to mimic.

Leading article, page 19

Loss of pet induces mourning

By OUR SCIENCE EDITOR

THE loss of a pet produces feelings of grief similar to those of human bereavement, Professor John Archer told the conference. The most intense feelings were experienced by people who lived alone, or those whose pets died unexpectedly.

In general, the feelings were less intense than those of a human bereavement, but not different in kind.

More than 60 per cent of 88 pet owners who responded to a questionnaire reported a feeling of "numbness and disbelief" when their pet died. Almost three quarters were preoccupied with intrusive thoughts, returning repeatedly to the loss, such as walking around looking for their dead pets.

The degree of upset experienced by the pet owners depended on the intensity of the relationship. Those who described a pet as "my baby" or who said it meant everything to them were the most grief-stricken.

The length of time the pet had been owned, or the fact that some owners had other pets, did not diminish the feelings.

The research was carried out at Kirkham, Lancashire, by Professor Archer and Gillian Winchester, of the University of Central Lancashire.

Most of the pet owners were women and the feelings were the same whether a cat or a dog had been lost.

Optimism on disease 'misguided'

By A STAFF REPORTER

PEOPLE are more optimistic about serious illness than is justified, Dr Peter Harris of the University of Hertfordshire told the conference. But with trivial ailments they think their risks are higher than other people's.

Dr Harris and Wendy Middleton asked 50 students to compile lists of diseases they were highly likely to get and those they most feared. There was little overlap between the two groups.

The students believed that they were likely to suffer from food poisoning, tooth decay, back problems, sunstroke, varicose veins, high blood pressure and gum disease. But they did not include two thirds of the diseases they feared most, including cancer, AIDS, Parkinson's disease, brain tumours and multiple sclerosis.

The research was an example of the "positive illusions" we all harbour about ourselves, Dr Harris said.

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Pioneering images of the brain suggest a role for meditation in conquering physical suffering

Thinking through the pain barrier

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE way we cope with pain might have more to do with our emotional response to it than with the pain itself, according to researchers who have taken the first pictures of the brain in pain.

A new imaging technique has shown that the response to pain may be more complex than has been thought and could account for the wide differences in pain thresholds between individuals. The findings also suggest that pain can be conquered by using mental techniques such as meditation.

The pictures, taken by a scanner that reveals chemical changes in the brain, show that it is the frontal lobes — the part of the brain dealing with the higher order activities of thinking and feeling — that show the strongest response to pain, rather than areas governing instinctive responses.

The brain reacts to pain by producing opioids — naturally occurring morphine-type

drugs — but the pictures show that most of this activity occurred in the frontal lobes.

Dr Anthony Jones, leader of the research team at the Manchester Rheumatism Centre in Salford and the Hammersmith Hospital, west London, said the findings were exciting.

"Opioids are the body's method of dealing with pain. What is interesting is that the frontal lobes have higher levels of opioid receptors and the most significant changes occurred in these areas. We think these frontal areas deal with the emotional reaction to pain and that opioids are more concerned with modifying people's emotional response to pain than abolishing pain."

The research team also looked at patients with chronic pain caused by cancer who were given morphine. They found the drug's effects were similarly concentrated in the frontal lobes of the brain.

Details of the research were

presented at a British Society for Rheumatology meeting in Cambridge yesterday. Dr Jones, a senior lecturer in rheumatology at Manchester University, said the findings could help patients with rheumatoid arthritis, cancer and chronic back trouble whose pain may be constant and resistant to drugs.

Evidence shows that the brain is less efficient at dealing with pain in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, which may be the result of chemical changes in the opioid system, Dr Jones said.

The pictures were taken using a scanning technique called positron emission tomography, which allows scientists to watch chemical reactions in living tissue. The opioid receptors, on to which the opioid molecules can lock, helping to counteract the pain, are shown up on the images as the orange and yellow areas which are clearly concentrated in the frontal lobes.



Left, a normal brain image; centre, a new positron emission tomography image; and right, the pain receptors shown in orange and yellow

Scientists isolate genes offering cancer hope

BY OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS have isolated two genes, thought to play a role in breast cancer, that might help doctors match treatments more effectively to patients. They believe one of the genes might

cause the cancer to spread from the breast and the other could help halt it.

Dr David Manning, of the Tenovus Cancer Research Centre in Cardiff, who isolated the genes with Dr Chris Green, from Liverpool University, said it was "an important breakthrough, but it is early days yet". It is

known that breast cancer runs in families and researchers have been searching for the genes responsible for more than five years. They have identified a handful that play a role, but the key genes determining who will get cancer have remained elusive. The new genes are switched on or

off by the female hormone oestrogen. One, called the p141 gene, might instruct the breast cells to produce a protein which helps cancer cells invade other parts. The other, called the pMG1, is triggered by anti-oestrogen drugs and appears to play a role in halting cancer growth.

Warmer weather sends nature wild

PESTS including spiders with a nasty bite could be on the increase (Nick Nuttall writes).

A government-commissioned report has confirmed that during the mild winters and hot summers between 1988 and 1990 British wildlife underwent a profound transformation. Some flowers bloomed up to five months early.

The report, compiled by Dr Melvin Cannell and Dr Carol Pitcairn of the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, found that between 1988 and 1989 temperatures were 2.5C higher than average, within the rise expected from global warming. **Impacts of the Mild Winters and Hot Summers in the UK in 1988-90** (Stationery Office, £15)

Peaceful waters calm fish prices

BY NICK ANGEL

FISH is better value this week after a period of reduced supplies and higher prices caused by stormy weather. Oil-rich fish is in abundance, with mackerel at about 90p a lb and sardines about £1.25 a lb. Flat fish remains elusive and expensive, however, except for plaice from the South Coast which is about £1.50 a lb.

Shellfish can be had at bargain prices, particularly oysters at about 70p each for natives and 40p for Pacifics. Mussels are still at last week's price of £2.20 for 2kg.

Pork is providing some of the best deals in the meat department. Safeway has leg of pork reduced from £1.39 to 79p a lb and Asda's fresh pork rolled shoulder is 99p a lb. Eight frozen pork shoulder chops from Sainsbury's are down 50p at £2.99.

On the fruit counter, Asda has English Cox's Orange Pippin at 45p a lb. Tesco has new season Elstar apples at 29p a lb and Golden Delicious are 19p a lb from Gateway. Grapes, too, are good value,

with Tesco's white seedless grapes down 20p at £1.19 a lb and white Italia grapes 39p a lb from Asda and Gateway.

Perfect growing conditions of warm weather with not too much rain have produced large, good-quality cabbages at 20-30p a lb.

Advertised best buys:
Asda: fresh minced beef £1.19 a lb; Mighty White bread (800g) 68p; Asda Moseil £1.99.
Gateway: fresh British beef boneless brisket £1.79 a lb; oranges 14p each; Blacksmiths cider (3ltr) £2.49.

Iceland: cooked peeled prawns (280g) £1.99; premium white loaf (800g) 49p.
Safeway: water-thin lightly smoked ham 64p/4 lb; plain digestives 45p; Little Gem lettuce (3 pack) 59p.

Sainsbury's: fresh whole rainbow trout £1.68; fresh sirloin steak £4.95 a lb; English mild cheddar £1.59 a lb.
Tesco: smoked cod fillet £2.65 a lb; six fruited teacakes 69p.

Waitrose: Scotch beef top-side £2.99 a lb; sweet pickled onions (440g) 95p.

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Aggressive Short misses his chance for first victory against the world champion

Precise defence foils challenger's assault

BY RAYMOND KEENE AND DANIEL JOHNSON

NIGEL Short and Garry Kasparov drew the eighth game of *The Times* World Chess Championship last night, after the British challenger, playing White, had sacrificed several pieces and come within an ace of winning his first game.

The draw was agreed after 41 moves, once it became clear that Kasparov had enough counterplay to neutralise Short's attack. The match score now stands at 6-2 to Kasparov. Afterwards Michael Adams, the British number two, said that Short had missed a clear win on move 35, when he should have played Qe7 instead of Bxh8. Other grandmasters agreed that Short had almost certainly missed a win while under time pressure.

Earlier, spectators had been treated to a virtuoso display of tactical brilliance by Short, who sacrificed first a bishop, then both rooks in order to

tear open the fortifications
around the world champion's
king

As the time control at move 40 approached, Short had only two minutes to make several moves, and it became clear that Kasparov's precise defence had taken the steam out of the assault. Though Short regained his lost material, Kasparov was able to counter-attack with his queen. In the final position Short was obliged to repeat moves or have his own king hunted over the board.

The result will nevertheless reassure Shori that he is capable of taking Kasparov to the edge of defeat, and may restore his morale after Tuesday's humiliating loss.

Short began the game in aggressive fashion. Once again he resorted to Bobby Fischer's favourite variation against Kasparov's habitual Sicilian Defence.

Play followed that of game

six until Short varied with 9 e5 instead of 9 f5. Kasparov spent considerable time in the opening phase, while Short moved fairly quickly, but Kasparov's 14th move, ...g5, appeared to take Short by surprise. There was no alternative but to offer a piece sacrifice, which Short duly did. He elected to sacrifice a piece with 16 Nc6, but there was fierce analysis among the spectating grandmasters about the alternative piece sacrifice 16 Bd5.

After 19 moves Short had one pawn in compensation for Kasparov's extra bishop, but the champion's king was, at least temporarily, pinned down in the centre of the board. The general opinion was that Short's sacrifice was speculative.

White: Nigel Short
Black: Garry Kasparov
Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6

2	Ni3	d6
3	d4	c/d4



Garry Kasparov, the world champion, concentrates fiercely on his reply to a Nigel Short move in game eight yesterday

4 Nzd4 Nf6 20 Rd6 Bxd6
5 Nc3 a3
6 Bc4 e6
7 Bc3 Nxd7
8 Jd4 Nc5
9 e5 dxe5
10 Be5 Bf7
11 Nf4 Bb4
12 Qc1 h5
13 Qc3 h4
14 Qc4 g5
15 0-0-0 Qe7
16 Na6 Nxb3+
17 bxb3 Qc5
18 Ne4 Qb5
19 Re1

a b c d e f g h

21	Nzd6+	K8	37	Gc7	Qc2
22	Nzd7	K9	38	Be5	Qc1+
23	Qc6+	Qd5	39	Kc2	Qc2+
24	Kd7+	Nd7	40	Kd3	Qd3+
25	Be7+	Kg7	41	Kd2	Qc2+
26	Qc6+	Kc7			
27	Nd7	Qc5			
28	Nc7+	Kg9			
29	Qc6+	Kc7			
30	Qc6+	Kg6			
31	Qc6+	Kg7			
32	Bf6+	Kc7			
33	Nf7+	Kc6			
34	Kg5+	Qc6			
35	Qc6+	Kc7			
36	Nf7+	Kc7			

Karpov holds his lead in the match at two points, with the score now 6½ to 4½.

According to unsubstantiated reports yesterday, the Sultan of Oman has withdrawn the £1.4 million prize fund for the Fide match. After Saturday's 12th game in Amsterdam, the second half of the 24-game match is due to be played in Oman.

Winning Move page 48

Seconds count in Savoy title fight

BY DANIEL JOHNSON AT THE SAVOY THEATRE

TWO questions were on every spectator's lips at *The Times* World Chess Championship, in which Nigel Short is trailing Garry Kasparov. How serious a blow to Short has been the loss of his trainer and chief second, Lubosh Kavalek, who flew back to Washington ten days ago; and would it help Short's dwindling chances if his team was now reinforced?

Secondly, players play a quiet, but vital role in world championship chess. They help the players to prepare for every eventuality in the opening, with new moves (or "theoretical novelties") to entrap the opponent. They are also vital in the event that a game is unfinished after 60 moves and must be adjourned overnight. Then, and only then, are they allowed to offer advice during the game.

Speaking on Channel 4 yesterday Short's manager, Michael Stean, insisted that there had been no dispute and that anyway Kavalek's departure made no difference. Short's other seconds, Jon Speelman and (after a short absence) the German grandmaster Robert Hübner, are still with him. He told *The Times*: "Kavalek's departure has made no difference to the score." Himself a grandmaster with experience as a

second at world championship level. Stean knows what he is talking about. It is also his job to present Short's challenge in the best light. But others are doubtful.

Raymond Keene, who was Viktor Korchnoi's second when he lost a title match to Anatoly Karpov in 1978, believes that to dispense with the services of his second after only three games in a 24-game series is a psychological setback.

"Quite apart from the loss of technical advice in openings and adjournments, to part company from a friend who has been with you for three years and has helped to get you to the top is extremely serious. The speculation must be that there was tension between Kavaiek, his old retainer, and the new blood brought in for this match."


Kasparov's formidable team of chess top grandmasters from the former Soviet Union has served him well in this match so far. But in the five world championship matches Kasparov has played against his rival Anatoly Karpov, the seconds have been a source of endless trouble. In the last match in 1986, Kasparov fired one of his seconds, Evgeny Vladimirov, for allegedly passing on secret prepared variations to Karpov, which had caused Kasparov to lose several games. The loss of a second towards the end of a match, however, did little damage, and Kasparov retained his title.

Another of his seconds, Mikhail Gurevich, claimed that he was offered a \$30,000 bribe to pass opening secrets to Karpov before their fourth match at Seville in 1987, but he refused. Recent discoveries in KGB archives confirm that dirty tricks involving seconds did indeed take place in the former Soviet Union.

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'If we can seize our opportunity, there is no glass ceiling for the party'

Don't betray principles to win votes, says Ashdown

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PADDY Ashdown warned Liberal Democrat activists yesterday not to throw away the party's chance to play big-time politics by betraying their principles in the battle for votes.

Dropping the triumphalist talk about becoming prime minister and taking power, the party leader sent his troops home from their annual conference on a note of realism, predicting that failure to satisfy their voters' hopes, would turn the recent election successes into "just another third-party surge. But if we can rise to the challenge," he said, "if we can seize our opportunity, then I promise you there is no glass ceiling for the Liberal Democrats."

Mr Ashdown, wearing the Manchester Olympic bid's blue and red striped tie, abandoned any reticence about attacking John Major personally with a sneering denunciation of "a phantom prime

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
IN
TORQUAY



minister" and an empty room in No 10. To the amusement of the conference, he recited:

*As I was going up the stair
I met a man who wasn't there.
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away.*

He also turned on Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, for pursuing "appeasement" policies in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Clearly hoping his disciplined, businesslike tone would be adopted by his 4,500 councillors and other activists, Mr Ashdown predicted that playing in "the big time" would bring them under scrutiny. "If you make a mistake in

your council chamber, it will hurt wherever we seek trust and power. If we, in our campaigns, do not adhere to the highest standards for which our party stands, we will suffer everywhere."

Never betray your principles in the battle for votes, he instructed them, in the wake of the allegations of racism by his Tower Hamlets councillors. "We have to understand in this party that there is a difference between populism and winning popular support for our ideas."

With representatives widely judging it to be his best conference speech since he became leader in 1988, he lifted their spirits after a rather flat week at conference, overshadowed — as in Harrogate last year — by outside events. The main target of his attack were "wannabe" Conservatives who sought power to get rich quick.

"I wannabe secretary of state, privatise an industry and then join the board," he mimicked. "I wannabe Chan-

cellor of the Exchequer, wreck the economy, humiliate the government — and join a bank in the City."

Time and again, the interests of the nation are subordinated to the interests of the Conservative party, he said. "But that is the way of the modern Conservative party: no dishonour too great; no deal too shady; no price too high to pay; provided they can stay in office and their party can stay in power."

The party leader offered John Smith some home truths, despite fresh proof this week that most party activists feel closer to Labour than to the Tories. Labour had wasted a year and showed every sign of wasting another, he said, without recognising the great movement for reform. However, perhaps with the next election in mind, he did not mention Mr Smith by name.

Mr Ashdown also spelled out the party's fresh approach to taxation, where any new or increased tax is earmarked for a specific and stated purpose.



Ghostbuster Paddy lifts off to rescue Earth

PADDY Ashdown's great speech was almost never delivered. Minutes before it was due to start your sketchwriter was stuck outside the conference centre, barred from entry. "There's a notice," said a fierce Liberal lady, "no admission after 11.30."

A young woman rushed up: "Quick, quick, let me in! I've pages for Paddy's speech. His AutoCue's playing up and we're trying to sort it out."

"Sorry, nobody passes." "But it's for Paddy. He won't be able to speak without the AutoCue. Please let me in; please." She burst into tears. They let her in. I followed. I sat in an overflow gallery above. From here I could see the camouflaged mechanism of Paddy's AutoCue system, beamed from a bank of foliage fringing the platform.

He is mastering the AutoCue technique well, achieving this year, a natural, less mechanical style. Watching the moving script beaming up from the aspidochelone, I was especially impressed by his delivery of the line "We must become the breath of fresh air blowing through our democracy". Paddy, the aerosol of British politics.

The platform party had shuffled in and sat down before him. "We have arrived. Take us to your leader." The audience was hushed. Then on stalked Captain Paddy and Jane — Charles Kennedy leaping up, and clapping them in like a sea lion at a dolphinarium. All sat. Paddy began.

It was a good speech, one of his best. He is learning to ham a little less, moving from the early Wolfitt towards the later McKellen. References to his recent sojourns as an ordinary man, among the people, were shrewdly underplayed. I believe it was the Buddha who in youth disguised himself as a pauper and moved anonymously among the poor. Paddy plainly intends to strike a similar chord. It's a very, very clever idea, whose genius the media are slow to grasp, but will. Mr

Ashdown was wise not to push it too hard yesterday.

Instead he sketched for us scenes which seem to be taken from the pages of a Marvel comic: Paddy the self-appointed commander of the planet — a sort of cosmic ghostbuster. The leap was startling. From taking control of the Dorset county council, Paddy launched himself into a role which was not just national but stellar — organising a UN world peacekeeping force, its operations based in the UK. But he was not alone in his mission to rescue Earth. By his side on Starship LibDem sat Simon Hughes — Ecoman — and Menzies Campbell QC — Ming — the Merciless. Liz Lynne — the lovely Kara — and a handful of space-cadets recruited at by-elections, served coffee.

CONFERENCE
ECHO

MATTHEW PARRIS

The audience loved it. In Liberal mythology the theme of the young warrior, undecorated with the trappings of worldly authority, but armed with courage and sanctified by purity, runs deep. I suppose we must blame Paddy's predecessor, the Boy David, whose biographer chose *Against Goliath* as his title. By the end of Mr Ashdown's speech we had conquered poverty and slain crime. Racism was vanquished and the economy rebuilt. Paddy strode the solar system and — yes — "Fellow Liberal Democrats... this is not the end, it is not even the beginning of the end, but for us, it is the end of the beginning."

He stalked off. The hall erupted. He stalked back. He appeared to be taking an encore. Would he, we wondered, if we shouted "more" with sufficient force, offer us highlights of his performance in a reprise? Could the AutoCue cope? Go on Paddy, do that bit — about the little girl in Moss Side — just one more time.

Election pledge on pensions dropped

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL STAFF

LIBERAL Democrat leaders won a critical victory yesterday over plans to scale down their spending commitments to pensioners. Proposals to withdraw the party's general election pledge to increase pensions in line with earnings were endorsed despite a challenge from Archie Kirkwood, the social security spokesman. Party leaders fear that linking pensions to earnings could place an unaffordable burden on taxpayers as the proportion of pensioners to those of working age increases by one-

third over the next 40 years. Party policy-makers believe that by increasing pensions in relation to price rises, which tend to be lower than pay increases, they can target more money towards those in greatest need through "top-up" pensions. Officials were concerned that a vote against targeting pensions towards the poorest could disrupt party plans to examine how other benefit systems, such as child benefit, can be aimed more directly towards those in greatest need.

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THE TIMES FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24 1993

THE TIMES DEGREE VACANCIES SERVICE: ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

How the Vacancies Service works

Engineering and technology courses are listed for the last time today by The Times Degree Vacancies Service as clearing ends. The race for places became a competition for candidates as universities and colleges struggled to fill their courses.

Admissions officers report little change since The Times last published vacancies in engineering and technology on Tuesday.

Traditional universities have fared best, with 52 courses removed by Liverpool, Leeds, Brunel, Keele, Reading and Essex.

However, business has been sluggish for the former polytechnics with none filling courses since Tuesday. Many places are certain to remain empty as the new term begins. One admissions officer said it was "absolutely unbelievable" that clearing was so quiet this year.

All the courses listed on this page still had vacancies yesterday. The codes following each university or college name are those appearing in the UCAS or PCAS handbook for 1993 entry. Where a figure appears in brackets, it gives the institution's estimate of the number of A-level points required for entry.

Points are calculated on the normal UCAS scale, using a maximum of three A-levels. An A

grade is worth ten points, B eight, C six, D four and E two. An A grade at AS-level counts as five points. B four, C three, D two and E one point.

The Times listings are compiled from universities' own returns. Not all institutions are included because some provide information to the admissions bodies and official agencies only.

AERONAUTICAL ENG

City: H420 (16), H412 (24), H401 (18)
Glasgow: H400 (14), H405 (14), H401 (14)
Maastricht: H400 (22), H401 (22), H420 (22)
Salford: H400 (12)

AGRICULTURAL ENG

Cranfield (Silcock): H330
Newcastle: H330 (12)

BUILDING

Bath: K24
London: K200 (12)
Strathclyde: K220 (18)
Ulster: K100 (14), K202 (12)

CERAMICS

Leeds: J30 (12)

CHEMICAL ENG

Bath: H809 (20)
Bradford: H809, H893, H894, H800, H811, H892, H803
Exeter: H840
London: H870 (20), H800 (20), H801 (20), H802 (20), H814 (20), H871 (20), H875 (20), Newcastle: H800 (18), H801 (18)

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Bath: H201 (16)
Bradford: H211 (10), H223 (4), City: H200 (11), H209 (20), H206 (12)
Dundee: H200 (12), H222 (12), H212 (12), H217 (6)
Exeter: H201
Glasgow: H200 (12), H226 (12), London: H200 (22), H201 (18)
Manchester: H200 (18), H201 (18), H210 (18), H212 (18), H200 (18)
Ulster: H200 (18)
UMIST: H201 (14), H220 (16), H225 (16), H226 (16)

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRONIC ENG

Bath: H580 (16), H620 (16), H556 (16)
Birmingham: H556 (20)
Bradford: H556 (10), H695 (12), H696 (10), H556 (12), H690 (12), H694, H605 (12), H606 (12), H691 (22), H692 (22), H693 (22), H694 (12)
City: H605 (12), H694 (12), H695 (12), H696 (12), H697 (12)
Dundee: H556 (16), H610 (12)
Exeter: H556
Glasgow: H556 (14), H536 (14), H516 (14), H613 (14), H556 (14)
Hull: H694 (10), H611 (10), H621 (12), H613 (12), H615 (12), H616 (12), H617 (12), H618 (12), H619 (12), H620 (12), H621 (12), H622 (12), H623 (12), H624 (12), H625 (12), H626 (12), H627 (12), H628 (12), H629 (12), H630 (12), H631 (12), H632 (12), H633 (12), H634 (12), H635 (12), H636 (12), H637 (12), H638 (12), H639 (12), H640 (12), H641 (12), H642 (12), H643 (12), H644 (12), H645 (12), H646 (12), H647 (12), H648 (12), H649 (12), H650 (12), H651 (12), H652 (12), H653 (12), H654 (12), H655 (12), H656 (12), H657 (12), H658 (12), H659 (12), H660 (12), H661 (12), H662 (12), H663 (12), H664 (12), H665 (12), H666 (12), H667 (12), H668 (12), H669 (12), H670 (12), H671 (12), H672 (12), H673 (12), H674 (12), H675 (12), H676 (12), H677 (12), H678 (12), H679 (12), H680 (12), H681 (12), H682 (12), H683 (12), H684 (12), H685 (12), H686 (12), H687 (12), H688 (12), H689 (12), H690 (12), H691 (12), H692 (12), H693 (12), H694 (12), H695 (12), H696 (12), H697 (12), H698 (12), H699 (12), H700 (12), H701 (12), H702 (12), H703 (12), H704 (12), H705 (12), H706 (12), H707 (12), H708 (12), H709 (12), H710 (12), H711 (12), H712 (12), H713 (12), H714 (12), H715 (12), H716 (12), H717 (12), H718 (12), H719 (12), H720 (12), H721 (12), H722 (12), H723 (12), H724 (12), H725 (12), H726 (12), H727 (12), H728 (12), H729 (12), H730 (12), H731 (12), H732 (12), H733 (12), H734 (12), H735 (12), H736 (12), H737 (12), H738 (12), H739 (12), H740 (12), H741 (12), H742 (12), H743 (12), H744 (12), H745 (12), H746 (12), H747 (12), H748 (12), H749 (12), H750 (12), H751 (12), H752 (12), H753 (12), H754 (12), H755 (12), H756 (12), H757 (12), H758 (12), H759 (12), H760 (12), H761 (12), H762 (12), H763 (12), H764 (12), H765 (12), H766 (12), H767 (12), H768 (12), H769 (12), H770 (12), H771 (12), H772 (12), H773 (12), H774 (12), H775 (12), H776 (12), H777 (12), H778 (12), H779 (12), H780 (12), H781 (12), H782 (12), H783 (12), H784 (12), H785 (12), H786 (12), H787 (12), H788 (12), H789 (12), H790 (12), H791 (12), H792 (12), H793 (12), H794 (12), H795 (12), H796 (12), H797 (12), H798 (12), H799 (12), H800 (12), H801 (12), H802 (12), H803 (12), H804 (12), H805 (12), H806 (12), H807 (12), H808 (12), H809 (12), H810 (12), H811 (12), H812 (12), H813 (12), H814 (12), H815 (12), H816 (12), H817 (12), H818 (12), H819 (12), H820 (12), H821 (12), H822 (12), H823 (12), H824 (12), H825 (12), H826 (12), H827 (12), H828 (12), H829 (12), H830 (12), H831 (12), H832 (12), H833 (12), H834 (12), H835 (12), H836 (12), H837 (12), H838 (12), H839 (12), H840 (12), H841 (12), H842 (12), H843 (12), H844 (12), H845 (12), H846 (12), H847 (12), H848 (12), H849 (12), H850 (12), H851 (12), H852 (12), H853 (12), H854 (12), H855 (12), H856 (12), H857 (12), H858 (12), H859 (12), H860 (12), H861 (12), H862 (12), H863 (12), H864 (12), H865 (12), H866 (12), H867 (12), H868 (12), H869 (12), H870 (12), H871 (12), H872 (12), H873 (12), H874 (12), H875 (12), H876 (12), H877 (12), H878 (12), H879 (12), H880 (12), H881 (12), H882 (12), H883 (12), H884 (12), H885 (12), H886 (12), H887 (12), H888 (12), H889 (12), H890 (12), H891 (12), H892 (12), H893 (12), H894 (12), H895 (12), H896 (12), H897 (12), H898 (12), H899 (12), H900 (12), H901 (12), H902 (12), H903 (12), H904 (12), H905 (12), H906 (12), H907 (12), H908 (12), H909 (12), H910 (12), H911 (12), H912 (12), H913 (12), H914 (12), H915 (12), H916 (12), H917 (12), H918 (12), H919 (12), H920 (12), H921 (12), H922 (12), H923 (12), H924 (12), H925 (12), H926 (12), H927 (12), H928 (12), H929 (12), H930 (12), H931 (12), H932 (12), H933 (12), H934 (12), H935 (12), H936 (12), H937 (12), H938 (12), H939 (12), H940 (12), H941 (12), H942 (12), H943 (12), H944 (12), H945 (12), H946 (12), H947 (12), H948 (12), H949 (12), H950 (12), H951 (12), H952 (12), H953 (12), H954 (12), H955 (12), H956 (12), H957 (12), H958 (12), H959 (12), H960 (12), H961 (12), H962 (12), H963 (12), H964 (12), H965 (12), H966 (12), H967 (12), H968 (12), H969 (12), H970 (12), H971 (12), H972 (12), H973 (12), H974 (12), H975 (12), H976 (12), H977 (12), H978 (12), H979 (12), H980 (12), H981 (12), H982 (12), H983 (12), H984 (12), H985 (12), H986 (12), H987 (12), H988 (12), H989 (12), H990 (12), H991 (12), H992 (12), H993 (12), H994 (12), H995 (12), H996 (12), H997 (12), H998 (12), H999 (12), H1000 (12)

ENGINEERING

City: Y636 (14)
Dundee: H200 (12), H300 (6), H616 (6), H601 (6), H222 (12), H212 (12), H217 (6)
Exeter: J120, J100, F605
Leicester: H106 (12), H107 (8), H100
Loughborough: F380
London: Imperial: JF52 (14), JF5F (18)
London: UC: H130
Manchester: H200 (18), H201 (18), H210 (18), H212 (18), H200 (18)
Ulster: H200 (18)
UMIST: H201 (14), H220 (16), H225 (16), H226 (16)

ENVIRONMENTAL

Cranfield (Silcock): H355
Hull: H694 (10)
London: Imperial: H255
Newcastle: H255 (12)
Strathclyde: J772 (18)

ENGINEERING AND

BUSINESS STUDIES

Bradford: H893, H605 (10), H302 (12)
Dundee: H711 (6), H212 (12), H611 (6)

GENERAL

ENGINEERING

Durham: H100
Exeter: H103
Leicester: H100 (12)
UMIST: H101 (18)

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Hull: G560, G530, G536
Keele: H610 (8)
London: King: G500 (18), G520 (18), G521 (18), G522 (18), G536 (18), G537 (18), G538 (18), G539 (18), G540 (18), G541 (18), G542 (18), G543 (18), G544 (18), G545 (18), G546 (18), G547 (18), G548 (18), G549 (18), G550 (18), G551 (18), G552 (18), G553 (18), G554 (18), G555 (18), G556 (18), G557 (18), G558 (18), G559 (18), G560 (18), G561 (18), G562 (18), G563 (18), G564 (18), G565 (18), G566 (18), G567 (18), G568 (18), G569 (18), G570 (18), G571 (18), G572 (18), G573 (18), G574 (18), G575 (18), G576 (18), G577 (18), G578 (18), G579 (18), G580 (18), G581 (18), G582 (18), G583 (18), G584 (18), G585 (18), G586 (18), G587 (18), G588 (18), G589 (18), G590 (18), G591 (18), G592 (18), G593 (18), G594 (18), G595 (18), G596 (18), G597 (18), G598 (18), G599 (18), G600 (18), G601 (18), G602 (18), G603 (18), G604 (18), G605 (18), G606 (18), G607 (18), G608 (18), G609 (18), G610 (18), G611 (18), G612 (18), G613 (18), G614 (18), G615 (18), G616 (18), G617 (18), G618 (18), G619 (18), G620 (18), G621 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MANUFACTURING

ENGINEERING

Bradford: H705 (8)
Dundee: H711 (6)
Hull: H764 (10)
London: King: H710 (18)
Loughborough: H780
Manchester: H402 (22), H7N1 (18)
Salford: H700 (8)
Strathclyde: H780 (20), H1N9 (12)
Ulster: H780 (14)
Wales, Cardiff: H716 (14)

MARINE ENGINEERING

Glasgow: H136 (10)
London: UC: H136 (20), J645 (18)
Strathclyde: J610 (20), J620 (20)

MATERIALS, ENG,

SCIENCE, TECH

Leeds: J500 (12)
London: Imperial: JF52 (14), JF5F (18)
J5R1 (16), J5H6 (18)

MECHANICAL

Bradford: H300 (8), H392 (8), H390 (8), H371 (10), H373 (10), H393 (12), H705 (16), H706 (16), H303 (4)
City: H300 (12), H390 (24)
Dundee: H300 (6)

METALLURGY

Leeds: J200 (12)
Manchester: J200 (12)
Strathclyde: J200 (18)
UMIST: J200 (12)

MINERALS

London: Imperial: H255 (20)

MINING

Exeter: J100
London: Imperial: J100 (14)
Nottingham: J100

PETROLEUM

ENGINEERING

London: Imperial: J171 (20)

POLYMERS

Manchester: J447 (12)
UMIST: J447 (12)

SURVEYING: QUANTITY

Bath: K280 (16)
Ulster: K280 (18)

TECHNOLOGIES

Glasgow: H111 (8)

TEXTILES

Leeds: J114 (14), J460 (12), J446 (12), J724 (16)
UMIST: J411 (16), J4ND (16), J5R2 (14), J5NC (16), J4N9 (16), J4J9 (16), J4TK (12)

AERONAUTICAL

ENGINEERING

Coventry: H400
Hertfordshire: H400, H408, H430, H438
Humbly Grove: H400, H620
Kingston: H400
NE Wales Inst: H400 (2), H420 (2)
Univ of W England: H420

ARTIFICIAL

INTELLIGENCE

Westminster: G590

BUILDING/

CONSTRUCTION

Buckinghamshire: K299
Central Lancashire: K201, K260
Coventry: H260, H272
De Montfort: K214 (10)
Dundee Inst: K250 (4)
Glasgow: K200
Glasgow Caledonian: K290
Greenwich: K21
Hertfordshire: K20C
Leeds: Y400, K201
Middlesex: K21, K28
Nene Coll: K200
Nottingham Trent: K200
Oxford Brookes: K200
Plymouth: K100
Robert Gordon: K100
Sheffield Hallam: K472
Southampton Inst: K252, K258
South Bank: K252, K258, K202, K

Castro's opponents grow bolder as ideology collapses

FROM DAVID ADAMS
IN MIAMI

Havana's latest economic reforms are a significant shift away from Marxism. Cubans are speculating whether President Castro will be able to keep pace with change

AS CUBA'S retreat from Marxism gathers pace in the face of economic hardship, opponents of Communist party rule are growing bolder, despite threats from party officials that they would "bash heads" at the first sign of unruliness.

In the past week Cuban officials have announced two economic reforms allowing the creation of small businesses and the private use of unused state land for farming. Officials have hinted that other steps towards a market economy are to follow.

The reforms come as reports grow of street protests in Havana at night. On Sunday the Catholic church called from pulpits nationwide for a national dialogue to avert "explosions of irrational violence".

The latest reforms are a significant ideological shift since the government nationalised all businesses in the late 1960s. In July, President Castro announced the legalisation of the American dollar, marking a watershed in the island's move towards a mixed economy.

Many Cubans are not waiting to find out what the new rules are, engaging in whatever small business they can to survive, from carpentry to shining shoes and selling jam. That has left many people angry. State salaries are worth only £3 to £5 a month, while small-time entrepreneurs can make five times as much. Families with access to dollar remittances from abroad have become the new elite, while followers of Dr Castro, army officers and state workers, have been relegated to second-class citizens by the revolution they made.

Arturo Villar, a Miami businessman who travels regularly to Havana, said: "They feel let down by Fidel because they feel that he just threw up his hands and said, 'This is the end of socialism. From now on

it's everyone on their own'." Captain Enio Ravelo, a fighter pilot who defected to the United States last Friday, said he left because Dr Castro had "sold out" the revolution. He said many military officers were bitter over the decision to lift the dollar ban, adding that the air force would not defend Dr Castro if Cuba came under attack. "They would all desert."

Now that the government has accepted moves towards capitalism, people are speculating whether Dr Castro will be able to keep pace with change or whether reform will snowball out of control. Those arguing the latter are pointing to statistics on the Cuban economy. The island's buying power has fallen to \$2.2 billion (£1.45 billion) from \$8.1 billion in 1989. The gross domestic product fell 24 per cent in 1991 and a further 15 per cent in 1992. This year Cuba announced its worst sugar harvest in three decades, down 40 per cent.

On Sunday priests read to parishioners a 17-page statement from the Cuban Conference of Catholic Bishops. In its

strongest attack on the communist system since the 1960s, the church accused the government of denying numerous political and civil rights and blamed it for a "deterioration of the moral climate". It said: "We must ask ourselves seriously why it is that so many Cubans want to leave — and do leave — their homeland."

Communist party officials responded bitterly, saying that the church was a tool of American imperialism. A party newspaper editorial called the statement "a stab in the back at this most difficult, decisive and heroic moment".

As Cuba's energy supplies dwindle in the absence of subsidies from Moscow, small groups have taken advantage of nightly power blackouts to stage unprecedented protests against Dr Castro, smashing the windows of official buildings, looting shops and spraying anti-government graffiti on walls. Visitors have seen slogans declaring "Down with Fidel" and "We want food".

The words are usually painted over by government workers.

Last week General Sixto Batista, head of the national network of Committees for the Defence of the Revolution, gave a warning that "the streets belong to the revolutionaries... if we have to bash heads, we will bash heads". *Granma*, the Communist party newspaper, said in an editorial: "Delinquents and anti-social elements who try to create disorder and an atmosphere of mistrust and impunity in our society will receive a crushing reply."

Mr Villar said: "I really sense the potential for violence and for an explosion. I see the beginning of anarchy. Castro has lost people's respect and there's no authority in Cuba."



Castro's followers feel let down by capitalist shift



A supporter of General Muhammad Farrah Aidid tearing up an American flag with his teeth during a rally in Mogadishu of 200 people yesterday at which an ambulance arrived to collect blood for the fugitive Somali warlord's wounded fighters.

A crowd quickly gathered around the vehicle and shuffles broke out as people jostled each other to be the first to give blood. The Somali National Alliance started holding twice-weekly demonstrations outside a stadium in the south of

Mogadishu after US-led United Nations forces attacked General Aidid's headquarters in June to retaliate for the killings of peacekeepers. Enraged demonstrators regularly tear up small Stars and Stripes and stuff them into their

mouths at the rallies. Fifty-three members of the multinational UN forces and hundreds of Somalis, including many women and children, have been killed in the virtual guerrilla war surrounding the hunt for the general. (AFP)

Poland's new rich ride the Baltic Sea bubble

FROM ADAM LEBOR
IN WARSAW

THERE is little of the economic discontent that catapulted Poland's former communists back to parliament to be found along Nowi Swiat, the smartest shopping street in Warsaw.

The boutiques and jewelers are crammed with expensive goods, the pavements crowded with shoppers, many spending as well as looking on enviously. A new Swiss chronograph is a snip at seven million zlotys (£235), as long as the buyer is one of the city's new rich, a member of the growing minority which is

making a lot of fast money by exploiting the opportunities that capitalism offers.

Warsaw, like other Eastern bloc capitals, is a city superficially transformed. Poles can buy a new Mercedes or BMW, and there is barely a Lada or Trabant to be seen among the traffic jams that clog the city centre. McDonald's and Burger King jostle for space with shops selling Western jeans and computers, and travel agencies offer trips to Cyprus, Greece and Tunisia. Five-star hotels, such as the newly refurbished Bristol where the cheapest room costs more than £100 a night, are crowded with Western busi-

nessmen discussing deals with their Polish partners.

Even the reformed communists who make up the Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) that is set to lead Poland's next coalition government were careful not to mention Lenin or Marx in their election campaign. Instead they promised merely to slow the pace of economic reform.

The great buildings that housed the power centres of communism have also been transformed. The old party central committee headquarters is now Warsaw's stock exchange and the Palace of Culture is now a complex of shops and foreign joint ven-

ture companies, with a funfair beside it.

Some worry that Warsaw's consumer boom is merely a Baltic Sea bubble, without any firm economic foundation. "The consumer economy is booming but nobody wants to build a new steel foundry," said one Western diplomat.

However, wherever there are economic winners, there must be losers. A gypsy woman sits holding her baby on a street corner, both swaddled tight against the autumn breeze: an old lady struggles with her almost empty shopping trolley. About a third of families in Poland live on or below the poverty line, say

SLD officials, citing government statistics.

Life for peasants has changed little since communism collapsed, because most agriculture was always in private hands. Somewhere between the new rich, the old poor and the farmers are other Poles, such as Stanislaw Gastowski, 37. A steelworker in the foundry town of Nowa Huta and a supporter of the outgoing Democratic Alliance, he says he is ready to wait for what he hopes will be better times. "Life is not that much better yet, but I am patient. I have a job. I live in a democracy and I have freedom, which means a lot."

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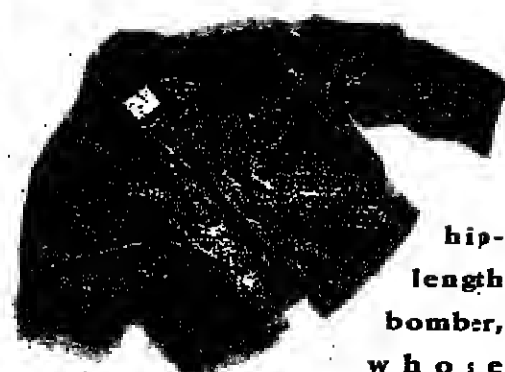
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South Africa parliament clears way to democracy

■ Right-wing MPs walked out after a bill crucial to the all-race elections was passed. In the townships the search for peace is becoming increasingly desperate

FROM MICHAEL HAMILYN IN JOHANNESBURG

YOUTH Africa took an important step towards democracy yesterday when parliament passed legislation giving blacks their first taste of political power.

Parliament's approval of a Transitional Executive Council (TEC) to oversee the run-up to next April's first all-race elections also opens the way to the repeal of the remaining anti-apartheid laws.

Parliament also passed two other bills dealing with the elections. They were the independent media commission bill, which aims to prevent unfair use of government-owned newspapers and the broadcasting media during the election campaign, and the independent electoral commission bill.

The TEC bill was approved over the objections of the right-wing Conservative Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party. Ferdi Hartzenberg, the Conservative leader, said the legislation was a constitutional revolution that would transfer power to the ANC-Communist Party alliance. He said Afrikaans would never subject themselves to its provisions, adding that the opportunity for a peaceful solution to South Africa's problems had been destroyed.



De Klerk will be asked to discuss peace plan

Immediately the Speaker announced the result — the bill was passed by 211 votes to 36 in a joint sitting of the three houses of the parliament — Mr Hartzenberg said that the government had finally put its foot on the path of abdication. He then asked that his party be excused from the rest of the session, which ends today, and led his MPs from the chamber.

In the townships on the eastern Witwatersrand the death toll continues to rise, provoking increasingly desperate calls for peace and the launch of a national peace-pledge signature campaign. The organisers of the signature crusade, the National Peace Campaign, which organised the national day of peace at the beginning of the month, now plan a gathering of the country's leaders at which the peace petitions will be presented. The leaders will be from other spheres, including the political.

The organisers say the leaders will be asked to discuss a common strategy for peace. They will include President de Klerk, Mr Mandela and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the chief minister of KwaZulu and president of Inkatha.

"To associate ourselves with this event, we are calling on all South Africans to switch off their lights and light a candle for peace," Jayendra Naidoo, a trade union leader who acts as the convener of the National Peace Campaign, said. Campaign officials expect to gather at least seven million signatures. "This is an awareness campaign," Mr Naidoo said.

In the strife-torn township of Thokoza yesterday, even the dead were not left undisturbed by conflict. Forty victims of violence, their charred bodies unrecognised and unclaimed by relatives, were to have been buried in a mass grave. Watched by clerics, journalists and peace workers, 16 bodies had been lowered into the grave when a gang of youths arrived and drove the spectators off. Eventually, the bodies were buried under the watchful eyes of police and peace monitors in two armoured cars.

Clinton steps up media health blitz

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

President Clinton yesterday mobilised his administration to build on the momentum of his impassioned televised address to Congress in which he demanded reform of the world's "costliest and most wasteful" health care system before late next year.

His senior officials monopolised television chat shows to promote what Mr Clinton suggested was America's most ambitious social legislation since Roosevelt established the social security system more than 50 years ago, and they appeared at hospitals, shopping centres and seminars from New York to Los Angeles. Mr Clinton held a rally of 2,000 health care professionals on the south lawn of the White House, while 60 radio hosts broadcast from the north lawn.

Two instant polls showed 55 and 56 per cent support for the plan Mr Clinton outlined, with 20 and 24 per cent respectively opposed. But the plan's many opponents were marshalling their forces for a counter-attack when the White House sends the legislation to Congress next month.

Mr Clinton dazzled with his TV salesmanship on Wednesday night, offering Americans a pain-free vision of "health care that can never be taken away, health care that is always there".

The president dwelt at length on the security that universal health coverage would provide, but largely skirted the tough underlying questions. He insisted that he could finance his \$440 billion (£290 billion) plan through a tobacco tax.

greater competition and eliminating waste. "The vast majority of the Americans watching this tonight will pay the same or less for health care coverage that will be the same or better than the coverage they have tonight," he promised. Mr Clinton said Americans would retain the right to choose their doctors, but failed to add they would be charged extra for that.

"This health care system of ours is badly broken, and it is time to fix it," he said. Its soaring costs were running thousands of people, crippling businesses and eroding America's international competitiveness. He challenged Congress to "answer the call of history" and appeal for bipartisan support.

The Republicans have endorsed the idea of universal health cover, but their official response to Mr Clinton's address contrasted sharply with his conciliatory tone. Carroll Campbell, the South Carolina governor, called the plan a "giant social experiment devised by theorists who have never met a payroll". He said it would eliminate consumer choice by foisting a "one size fits all" system on people, create a huge government bureaucracy, and destroy jobs by mandating employer health contributions.

The American Medical Association, the country's biggest doctors' organisation, said it would neither support nor oppose the plan, saying some elements were good and others bad.

Peter Brookes, page 18

Barge 'hit rail bridge just before Alabama disaster'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THE railway bridge which collapsed, sending an Amtrak train hurtling into an Alabama swamp and killing at least 45 people, might have been critically damaged when a heavy barge collided with one of its supports in heavy fog minutes earlier, federal investigators said.

Divers were still searching the murky alligator-infested waters of Big Bayou Canot, just north of Mobile, in the increasingly hopeless search

for survivors yesterday. Of the 206 passengers thought to be travelling on the Sunset Limited train from Los Angeles to Miami, 158 had been rescued. At least three, and perhaps as many as a dozen passengers were still missing, according to the Mobile coastguard.

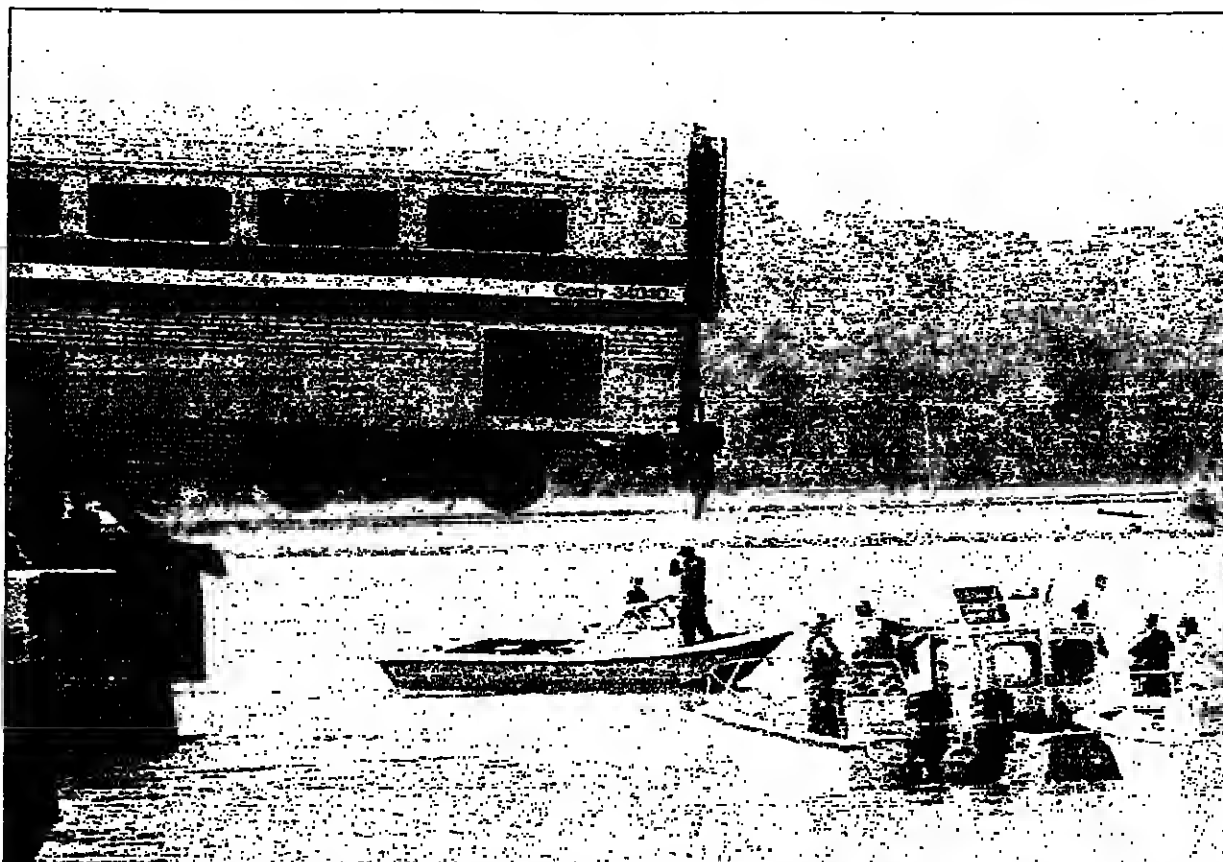
A spokeswoman at the British consulate in Atlanta said Amtrak had provided a list of 19 Britons who might be on the train, of whom 16 were "safe, sound and accounted for". It was not clear whether the remaining three had been on the train in the first place.

Police have impounded barges belonging to the Warrior & Gulf navigation company, Charles Archer, an FBI spokesman, said the accident occurred immediately after a line of barges struck the bridge in the dark. Harold Johnson, the Mobile police chief, met federal prosecutors yesterday to discuss possible criminal charges.

But at least one witness, Clifford Hurst, a British passenger and train enthusiast, said an obviously damaged track had caused the accident.



Hurst blamed crash on damaged rail



Rescue workers searching for bodies under an overhanging rail coach in a marshy tributary of the Mobile river, Alabama. At least 45 people were killed after an Amtrak train plunged off a collapsed bridge

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Rabin wins Knesset vote to ratify deal with Palestinians

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, yesterday silenced his hardline critics when he won a comfortable majority in parliament, removing the final obstacle to the country's historic peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

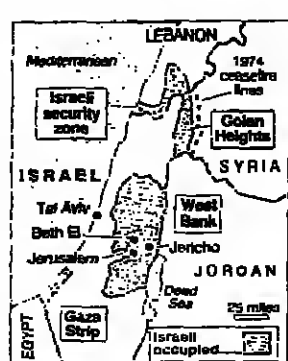
After three days of noisy debate, the single-chamber 120-member Knesset ratified the agreement by 61 votes to 50. Eight MPs, including three from the main opposition Likud party, abstained and another was absent.

"The era of conflict is over," said Shimon Peres, the foreign minister and architect of the peace accord. "Now we will build a new Middle East."

The vote removed the threat of fresh elections or a referendum on the agreement, which grants self-rule to Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, followed by a withdrawal of Israeli forces from the rest of the occupied territories. The Knesset also endorsed Mr Rabin's recognition of the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and approved an agenda for peace talks with Jordan.

Before the vote, and even while the MPs were recording their decisions, right-wing op-

■ Rebel Israeli right-wingers have endorsed the peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, highlighting splits in the opposition Likud party



ponents attempted to undermine the agreement by street demonstrations, impassioned speeches and verbal assaults against speakers from the ruling left-wing coalition parties.

"Our best sons will be turned into prisoners and hostages within a non-Jewish population," said Yitzhak Shamir, the former prime minister, referring to the fate of 120,000 Jewish settlers, whom he encouraged to move into the occupied territories. "There is only one way to save us: direct elections at this hour could give the people time to

open their eyes, reflect and return to their senses."

But his appeals failed to impress even some of his own Likud members and the key ultra-orthodox Shas party, whose six members abstained or were absent from the vote.

Meir Shitreet, a Likud MP who defied the party line and abstained, said the once populist right-wing movement could be destined for the wilderness if it continued to reject the peace deal. "Likud is positioning itself at the right edge of the political map... this is political suicide."

Assad Assad, a Druze Muslim and another Likud abstainer, said he was torn between loyalty to party and people. "Forgive me for obeying the dictates of my people, of my conscience," he said.

The result was warmly received by the Palestinians. "It is a first step. We have finished with the easy part," said Haniyeh Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman. "The difficult part is a challenge to both of us. We have to become partners for peace rather than adversaries in conflict."



A Jewish settler praying yesterday while a bulldozer razes a site near the Beth El settlement in the El Bireh area of the West Bank. One hundred settlers were dragged away by Israeli soldiers while trying to take over Palestinian land.

Saddam puts cork on public high spirits

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday stepped up Iraq's clampdown on wine, women and song, which since the imposition of UN sanctions in 1990 has transformed Baghdad from the liveliest Arab capital into one of the dullest. A new decree banned all Muslims in Iraq from selling liquor but allowed them to continue drinking it, a move regarded as hypocritical by a number of

the more extreme Islamic governments. Saddam and his eldest son Uday are noted imbibers of whisky and cognac.

Diplomats claim that the order has been prompted by growing public resentment at the high living of a corrupt elite, and is a sop to Islamic fundamentalists. It is also seen as an attempt by the Iraqi leader to boost his standing in the Arab world. Since the crackdown against what

one senior minister described recently as "denigrating nocturnal activities", 65 nightclubs have been shut down, 18 of them in Baghdad, and more than 600 bars have been closed.

Ironically, before the invasion of Kuwait three years ago, Iraq was a place where other Arabs flocked to escape strict Islamic regulations in their own countries.

France tempers war talk on Gatt

FROM CHARLES BREMMER
IN PARIS

FRANCE signalled yesterday that it was keen to defuse the row over farm trade with the United States and needed breathing space to sell a compromise to its public.

"We want to tone down the war talk and de-dramatise the atmosphere," a government official said. Paris wanted to settle its objections to the Blair House farm trade pact with Washington for the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) round by December 15, despite its opposition to what it regards as an American deadline, officials said.

Their conciliatory comments appeared to confirm that Edouard Balladur, the prime minister, was preparing the ground for persuading the powerful farming lobby that it should compromise. Although officials insisted the draft accord was unfair to farmers, they indicated flexibility on key points, including their main objection: a cut of 21 per cent in the European Community's subsidised exports. France could let the figure stand if its impact was softened, they said.

Ailing Sihanouk makes mercurial return to throne

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BANGKOK

PRINCE Norodom Sihanouk, 71, one of the great political survivors of modern times, returned from China to his native Cambodia yesterday. Today he will take the oath as reinstated king of an impoverished, war-ravaged nation of nine million people.

The ageing prince, who is in poor health, abdicated in 1955 to enter politics and was overthrown in a coup in 1970. Yesterday he inspected a guard of honour under the old royal flag at the airport and acknowledged the enthusiastic cheers of a crowd of welcoming supporters. In a brief address to foreign diplomats before driving to his palace, the prince said Cambodians could be proud that "unity had been achieved".

He did not mention the Khmer Rouge, which is not part of that unity and remains the ghost at the feast in a rejoicing Phnom Penh as it enjoys a specially declared national three-day holiday. "I think we can be strong, with a genuine liberal democracy where the people will be masters of their destiny through their legal representa-

tives in parliament, government and the judiciary," the prince said. He emphasised that the new Cambodian government would "naturally respect all human rights".

While a majority of Cambodians, particularly the 80 per cent who live in the rural areas, welcome Prince Sihanouk's return as figurehead monarch, some educated urban survivors of the 1975-9 Khmer Rouge terror recall that human rights were not always respected under his sometimes arbitrary rule during the 1960s. They remember, too, that his political opponents were often harassed.

The prince's return as king represents a great personal vindication for a statesman who says he has learnt from past mistakes. Diplomats, however, say that this remains to be seen.

At the moment, few people would begrudge the mercurial monarch his moment of triumph in his homeland; he must return to China next Wednesday for an operation to remove a growth near his prostate. His precarious health means that today's ceremonies will be muted. Although the prince is likely to mount the throne, he will not wear the royal crown or hold the sword of state, both of which were lost in the upheavals after he was overthrown in 1970.

With today's promulgation of the constitution bearing Prince Sihanouk's signature, the United Nations mandate in Cambodia effectively ends. Some troops will, however, remain until November, since the Khmer Rouge is still active despite significant numbers of its forces having defected in recent weeks.



Sihanouk: few people begrudge his triumph

Patten warns colony against corruption

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE Sino-British negotiations are a bit like Wagner, including the ending when the fat lady sings.

Indeed, a British source observed this week that the declaration by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, that Peking should not get the Olympics in 2000, indicated that "the fat lady has definitely sung, although I'm not sure exactly where".

Sometimes, even as the fat lady is approaching her final bars, the gods approach others warily. Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, has written to his Chinese counterpart, Lu Ping, who oversees all matters relating to Hong Kong in Peking, suggesting a meeting before Sino-British brinkmanship falls over the edge. Mr Lu has not yet replied.

Mr Patten told an audience of foreign bankers on Wednesday that he regarded official

corruption, up by 44 per cent compared to last year, "as one of the most serious threats to Hong Kong's future - before and after the transfer of sovereignty".

The governor was talking about China's growing malign influence here. To make it plain he referred to the kind of place where there is a "surcharge" in business deals, to include bribes. It is a matter of common consent that bribery adds 5 per cent to costs when dealing with China, Hong Kong by contrast, Mr Patten said, is one of the least corrupt places anywhere, because it is protected by law and a free press.

Peking, too, is busy singing its final arias. An official said that the lack of progress in the talks, which reach their twelfth round next weekend, is because of Mr Patten's "three violations" of agreements between London and Peking.

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Hardliners press demands to put Yeltsin on trial but sense of defeat is growing

Russian deputies weigh next move against president

By ANATOL LIEVEN
in Moscow
and MICHAEL EVANS

RUSSIAN conservative deputies were in few doubts about the difficulty of the task they now face when they gathered last night to consider their next move against President Yeltsin.

Outside the parliament building in Moscow, a crowd of hardliners continues to demand that Yeltsin be brought to trial. Inside, however, many conservatives were already beginning to confront the possibility of defeat.

The defection of Valentin Stepankov, the general prosecutor, to Mr Yeltsin's side, coming on top of the resignation of three leading deputies in protest against moves being made in parliament, has created a widespread sense of defeat. Tamara Ponomareva, a deputy of the Agrarian Union, said defiantly: "We think there could be an armed intervention against us, but we are not afraid."

Several conservative deputies believe their only real chance now is that enough regions and autonomous republics will support them to

■ For the West a conservative triumph will be worrying. At stake is future control of the huge arsenal of nuclear weapons

force Mr Yeltsin to a compromise involving simultaneous parliamentary and presidential elections. As to Aleksandr Rutskoi being "acting president", in private deputies do not pretend to take it seriously. Asked what the Supreme Soviet and the Congress can do to carry out their decisions, Vassili Travov, a Communist deputy, said: "It is true that Yeltsin now has all the power structures with him, and we have none, at any rate in Moscow. But at least the Congress can speak the truth about what is happening to the country. If the people don't listen, then the people will have chosen their own fate."

For the West, the most worrying aspect of the power struggle in Russia is that of the huge arsenal of nuclear weapons built up under communism. At present these are under local and key and protected from political interference, but if the conservatives triumph the weapons will fall

into the control of what the West considers untrustworthy hands.

But, unlike the August 1991 coup attempt, there has been no alarm over the control of Russia's nuclear arms. In the failed coup, the conspirators tried to persuade Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet president, to hand over the nuclear codes. He refused, but for several days there was considerable uncertainty over the command and control of the nuclear arsenal.

This time Mr Yeltsin has made it clear that only he and General Pavel Grachev, his defence minister, have access to the nuclear launch codes and that the security system for the weapons remains intact. The commander of the strategic missile forces is Colonel-General Igor Sergeev, who was appointed by President Yeltsin. He became a general at the age of 39 and took up his present post in August last year. Although all



Moscow deputies discussing the future during a parliamentary break yesterday after they began to face the possibility of defeat

the tactical systems are now being dismantled, the strategic weapons are still located in four countries, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus. At present the strategic missile forces have about

900 delivery vehicles and more than 3,800 warheads in Russia. Most of the weapons are located in remote areas, far from big cities.

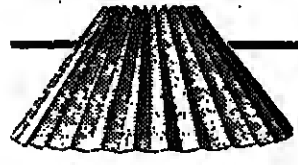
Western military experts said the security surrounding the nuclear weapons and the checks that were carried out were "impressive". One source said: "We regard it as highly unlikely that the military responsible for the weapons would take orders from unauthorised people."

□ Tbilisi: A third Georgian airliner in three days was destroyed yesterday as government forces and Abkhazian rebels battled for control of the Black Sea port of Sukhumi. A government spokesman said many people were injured when a TU134

was hit by an artillery shell while parked on the runway at Sukhumi airport waiting to evacuate war-wounded and refugees from the city.

Yeltsin consolidates, page 1
IMF loans, page 26

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740 3.95m extends
to 6.77m £74.99
745 4.51m extends
to 8.40m £89.99

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to 6.25m £52.99
740 3.95m extends
to 6.77m £74.99
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to 8.40m £89.99

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Uncertain media caught off guard

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

Russia's fledgling democratic media, still struggling to escape the servile habit of the communist past, has been caught off guard by the events in Moscow. A distinct air of déjà vu has descended on the press and television, significant elements in the fight for power across the vast country, with the public being treated to streams of official statements and exhortations rather than balanced accounts of what is happening.

State television, which remains firmly pro-Yeltsin, has dropped any pretence of objectivity this week. One woman newsreader, resplendent in the bright pink attire and cast iron blonde perm beloved of stars of the screen, began her evening report by reminding viewers that she and her colleagues remain loyal to the Kremlin leader.

Scenes of Boris Yeltsin strolling in the streets of Moscow and reassuring people that he is in full control have been broadcast repeatedly while the pretenders to power, Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoi and Russian Khasbulatov, the parliamentary Speaker, have been given scant opportunity to air their views.

Disorganisation within the opposition camp has not helped its PR efforts. Mr Khasbulatov, usually a suave television performer, is clearly aware that his call for military disobedience and a general strike has backfired and he has now abruptly dropped

such notions. Badly in need of an image consultant, he insists on appearing in a black shirt and leather jacket which does nothing for his pasty complexion and makes him look like a gangster — which is exactly how many Yeltsin supporters view him anyway.

Mr Yeltsin has developed into a skilful screen performer; as he announced his decree, he offset the formality of the occasion by sipping a cup of tea to convey relaxed confidence about the outcome.

Parliament has voted to take overall control of the state mass media, but the vote has had no effect. Mr Khasbulatov has been unable to find that his personal show, *Parliamentary Hour*, which he moved to peak viewing time on the second channel recently has been removed from the schedule "for the time being".

The clash between parliament and presidency has come at a time when many newspapers were wavering in their support for Mr Yeltsin and some have been forced to adapt their lives hurriedly now that he looks like emerging as the victor in round one of the contest.

The *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* which supported him during the coup but changed tack over the summer, giving more and more space to the parliamentary argument, has found itself caught between the fronts and could think of no better front page headline yesterday than "They must all be stopped".

President opts for new poll

Continued from page 1
Yeltsin. It was scheduled to begin late in the evening despite a stern warning from Mr Chernomyrdin that such a gathering could push the country towards civil conflict.

The meeting failed to reach its quorum of 689 members. Mr Yeltsin had earlier decreed that the travel allowance granted to deputies attending Congress had been cancelled because parliament was now an illegal body. He also cut off its funding from the state budget and took away MPs' diplomatic passports.

The meeting then voted to reduce the quorum, ruling that deputies who supported Mr Yeltsin's decree to dissolve parliament were stripped of their membership of Congress. This effectively eliminates all pro-Yeltsin members and further undermines Congress's claim to be the supreme representative power in the country.

General Pavel Grachev, the defence minister, reiterated the support of the armed forces for Mr Yeltsin, and gave a warning that force could be used to quell any outbreaks of violence by "bandits and provocateurs" and to keep public order.

The opposition camp seems in disarray after statements by the armed forces, security services and government that they remain loyal to Mr Yeltsin. Three senior deputies resigned yesterday with the most highly placed of them, Nikolai Ryabov, the deputy parliamentary Speaker, agreeing to head a commission in charge of organising

the December election to a new legislature.

In a further blow to the parliamentary cause, Valentin Stepankov, the public prosecutor, declared that the Supreme Soviet's decision to remove Mr Yeltsin from office and swear in Mr Rutskoi had been illegal, prompting a furious Mr Khasbulatov to call for Mr Stepankov's removal. The prosecutor has previously been an ally of the legislature in the fight with the Kremlin.

The defections from the opposition have clearly shaken Mr Khasbulatov, who accepted publication for the first time yesterday the possibility that his power base in the Supreme Soviet could be dismantled. "The country is deep in shame. Its prestige is zero," he said. "Whether the parliament stays or goes, this coup d'état has to be put down."

Mr Chernomyrdin, who is emerging as a valiant supporter of the Russian leader in his time of need, added insult to parliament's injury by saying that he would set up a "deputies' labour exchange" to find new employment now parliament has been dissolved.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet president, kept up his attacks on Mr Yeltsin yesterday, saying that the promise of new presidential elections was misleading because the Kremlin would have control of the media and public finances. "How can elections be fair in such circumstances? It is bad for democracy and sets a dangerous precedent," he said.

IMF holds fire, page 25

NEWS IN BRIEF

French floods in southeast leave 4 dead

Marseilles: Four people were killed, hundreds of cars were washed away and roads and railways cut as rainstorms ravaged southeast France. In the hardest hit region of Aix-en-Provence, two people drowned while trying to flee from their cars on roads which became rivers. (Reuters)

Turkish delight

London: Turkey has won its long legal fight to reclaim the multimillion dollar Lydian artefacts collection of ancient Greek artefacts from the Metropolitan Museum in New York, which first showed it in 1984.

Tyson loses

Indianapolis: Indiana's supreme court voted not to hear former world heavyweight champion boxer Mike Tyson's appeal against his conviction for raping Desiree Washington. (Reuters)

Mia accused

New York: Mia Farrow, the actress, has been accused of having an adulterous affair with Richard Tannbaum, a lawyer, in a divorce case brought by his wife Hillary, an art director.

Triassic mark

Johannesburg: Palaeontologists unearthed a rare complete 15th skeleton of a Euskelosaurus, a dinosaur which lived in the Triassic Age, more than 200 million years ago. (Reuters)

Draskovic pleads for softer sanctions

By EYE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC
CORRESPONDENT

STUDENTS in Serbia have started to kill themselves because they cannot bear the harsh effects of Western sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia. Vuk Draskovic, the Serb opposition leader, told Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, in London yesterday.

Mr Draskovic, who was beaten and badly injured when he was arrested during a demonstration against the regime of President Milosevic in June, appealed to Britain to press for a relaxation of the sanctions. The leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement told Mr Hurd, at the beginning of a week's official visit to Britain, that the sanctions were helping keep Mr Milosevic in power.

"He can use them as an excuse to disguise the disastrous state of the economy. If I can tell people back home that I have managed to win some relaxation of sanctions, that will persuade them to vote for us. President Milosevic controls the media and that is a main reason he won last year's election," he said. "We want permission



Vuk Draskovic, the Serb opposition leader, in London yesterday at the start of his official visit

for a private airline to fly between Belgrade and Budapest carrying humanitarian aid and passengers. It would be an important symbolic gesture."

Mr Draskovic, who said "fortunately or unfortunately I have never met my president", spent weeks under arrest in hospital after the June demonstration, and says he is only free now because of appeals for his

release by John Major and other Western leaders.

Blaming "Balkan Honnors" for the bloodshed in former Yugoslavia, Mr Draskovic said he believed there would be no early end to the fighting in Bosnia, but that the risk of a new war between Croats and Serbs in Croatia was unlikely "because people are sick of war". The Serbian opposition leader, whose wife, Danica, is

with him in Britain, spoke passionately about the need to restore "democratic forces" to Serbia, though he is unwilling to contemplate a restoration of autonomy for the ethnic Albanian-dominated Kosovo region.

"Kosovo is the Serbian Jerusalem," he said. "Kosovo is the capital of the Serbian nation. Kosovo must remain part of Serbia."

Ethnic Albanians in the region complain of constant harassment from Serb police and Mr Draskovic said that they would have "all human rights" if his party came to power.

As Mr Draskovic spoke, the ravages of war continued. The bodies of 66 Serbs, many of them charred and dismembered, were found in Croatia by the United Nations after a Croatian army incursion into the rebel Serb enclave of Krajina. Shannon Boyd, a UN protection force spokeswoman, said in Zagreb, the Croatian capital, that peacekeepers had seen the bodies and found it impossible to determine whether they were civilians or soldiers because of their condition.

The Croatian government also told the UN that its 14,000 peacekeepers would have to withdraw from the republic by the end of November unless they set a deadline for disarming Serbs holding a third of the country. General Jean Cot, commander of UN peacekeeping forces throughout former Yugoslavia, said the UN would not want its presence in Bosnia, Croats launched a fierce at-

Vitez: Two British soldiers were wounded by mortar shrapnel after their UN patrol came under fire at a Croat checkpoint in central Bosnia yesterday. The soldiers, who were not identified, were not believed to be critically hurt. One was hit in the jaw and the other slightly injured, UN sources said. (Reuters)

tack on the Muslim quarter of Mostar, halting an aid convoy to the ghetto where 55,000 Muslims are trapped. Croat forces also threatened to cut power supplies to Sarajevo where the mainly Muslim parliament is to meet next Tuesday to debate the latest peace plan to end the fighting.

After 23 years on the run, an urban terrorist surrendered to her conscience and the FBI. Ben Macintyre reports

Fugitive from a radical past

Oregon is on the outer edge of America, a somewhat unreal place of forests and seashore to which many old hippies, retirees and outcasts come to find anonymity and peace, and where people ask few questions and give fewer answers.

So earlier this month, when Alice Metzinger, a shy, middle-aged teacher and professional cook who lived in a nondescript, white-shingled house in Willamette valley with her husband and son, told her handful of friends she was having a farewell party, nobody was surprised or too inquisitive. Nobody even asked where she was going.

And then, halfway through the wine and salad, Alice dropped a bombshell. She was not Alice Metzinger at all, she told her astonished friends, but Katherine Ann Power, a student radical sought by the authorities for 23 years in connection with the murder of a Boston policeman: for 14 of those years she was on the most-wanted list of the FBI, which described her as an "armed and very dangerous" young woman.

The time had come, she explained, to give herself up. On September 14, Katherine Power, after reuniting with her aged parents, surrendered to the Boston police. "I am now learning to live with openness and truth, rather than shame and hiddenness," she said, after pleading guilty to armed robbery and manslaughter.

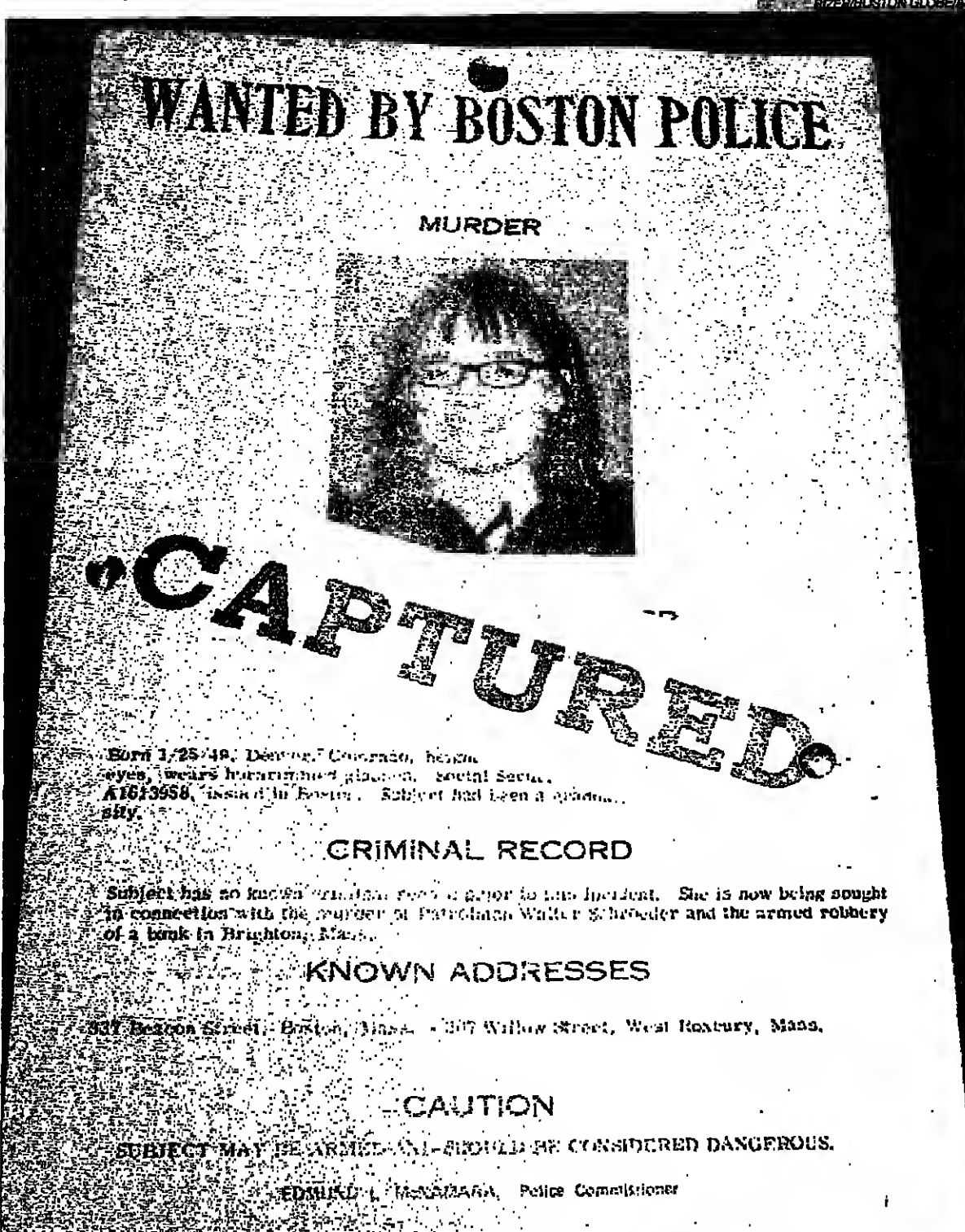
She will be sentenced on October 6, and may be eligible for parole in about five years.

The tale of Katherine Power is a bizarre parable to emerge from the agonised Vietnam war era, when idealism on America's campuses fused with anger and frustration, leading to protest from many, and violence by a few.

Power was an unlikely candidate for urban terrorist. A bookish, serious child, who won prizes at school for cooking, homework and sewing, she came from a large, middle-class, Irish-American family in Denver.

At Brandeis University, Massachusetts, her social conscience (already nurtured by the Catholic nuns at Marycrest School, Colorado) hardened into political awareness. Almost overnight, in April 1970, when President Nixon ordered the invasion of Cambodia and four students were killed by the National Guard at Kent State University, she became a radical.

At Brandeis, Power became friends with Susan Saxe, a young woman who shared her views, and Stanley Bond, a 25-year-old convict attending the university as part of an inmate education programme. Power clearly fell in the love with Bond, a handsome, self-styled



A captured banner is added by Boston police to a 1970 poster. For 14 years Katherine Power was on the FBI's most-wanted list. Last week, now 44, she pleaded guilty to manslaughter and armed robbery



revolutionary, whom the dean of students now recalls as "borderline psychotic".

Neurotic, unhappy and immensely self-obsessed, Power was no shrinking violet, but a willing, knowing participant in what ensued. When police raided her apartment, they found three rifles, a shotgun, a pistol and large stocks of ammunition.

The three students, along with two convicts, hatched a wild plan to rob a bank in Boston and use the proceeds to buy guns for the Black Panthers to use in order to overthrow the federal government and stop the war in Vietnam. Three days before the planned heist, the team set

fire to the National Guard Armoury in Newburyport and stole some ammunition and a truck.

On September 23, 1970, they hit the State Street Bank. Power drove the getaway car, and the robbers escaped with \$26,000, but not before being intercepted by Officer Walter Schroeder, a 42-year-old veteran of the Boston police force, who had been tipped off by a silent alarm. The lookout, William "Lefty" Gilday, shot the policeman and father of nine dead with a machine gun.

The team split up, and the three convicts were soon arrested, but Power and Saxe escaped and went underground. For five years the pair

lived in women's communes, changing their names, working for cash and moving constantly. Gilday was sentenced to life imprisonment — he is still in jail — for the murder of officer William Schroeder, and Bond killed himself with a homemade bomb he planned to use to break out of prison.

Finally, the women went separate ways. In 1975, Saxe was arrested and sentenced to eight years in prison, but Power kept on running.

In 1977, she came to Oregon, calling herself Alice Metzinger thanks to a birth certificate she obtained for a child, long dead, who had been born, like Power, in 1948. She had a

child, Jaime, (she has never named the father) and met Ron Duncan, a meat cutter she later married. She worked in various restaurants, even setting up her own.

By 1985, after one of the longest hunts in history, the FBI had abandoned the chase. Power settled down, and at the same time began to reflect on what she had done and how to rationalise it. She found she could not.

The therapist prescribed the anti-depressant medicine Trazodone, and later, as she gained her patient's trust, came to the realisation that Power could only be cured by abandoning her fugitive status, reuniting with her family and coming to terms with her past. Encouraged by Ron Duncan, Power finally made

contact with a lawyer who, over more than a year, negotiated the terms of a surrender with the FBI. In August of this year Power signed a "plea-bargain" agreement, but delayed her surrender until Jaime had started high school.

Power claims she has trouble remembering the details of the bank robbery, or what happened to her during her first few years on the run. "The vagueness hasn't gone away," her husband told *Time*. As part of her surrender agreement she will be permitted to take regular doses of Trazodone.

To the anger of Walter Schroeder's family, she was smiling when she walked into

court two weeks ago to "accept whatever consequences the legal system will impose" — to all appearances a woman at peace with herself.

In a prepared statement she said: "The illegal acts I committed arose not from any desire for personal gain but from a deep philosophical and spiritual commitment that if a wrong exists one must take active steps to stop it, regardless of the consequences to oneself in comfort or security."

The strange psychological odyssey of Katherine Power may be over, but the angry, self-justifying woman, who believed that violence could be used to stop violence, was still there, somewhere, in the dock.

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'We didn't think of Jerries as human'

By the evening of D-Day, June 6, 1944, the Allies had established a firm foothold in Normandy. The great gamble had paid off...

Private John Chalk aged 23, medical section D Company, 1st Battalion, The Hampshire Regiment. I DID what I could for the wounded, and while kneeling among those poor fellows I looked up to see a young girl with a bicycle, just standing there crying and sobbing. I realised she was afraid to move through what must have looked like hell to her, so I picked up her bicycle, took her by the hand and led her through.

Colonel David Bruce London chief of OSS, with General "Wild Bill" Donovan, head of OSS. DONOVAN and I came to a halt in the lee of a hedgerow that was being subjected to intermittent German machine-gun fire. Flattened out, the general turned to me and said: "David, we mustn't be captured. We know too much." "Yes, sir," I answered mechanically. "Have you your pills?" he demanded. I confessed I was not carrying the instantaneous death pellet concocted by our scientific adviser.

"Never mind," replied the resourceful general, "I have two of them." Thereupon, still lying prone, he disgorged the contents of all his pockets. There were a number of old hotel keys, a passport, currency of several nationalities, photographs of grandchildren, travel orders, newspaper clippings, and heaven knows what else, but no pills. "Never mind," said Donovan. "We can do without them, but if we get out of here you must send a message to Gibbs, the

Moments of high drama mixed with fear and farce after D-Day 1944.

Russell Miller concludes the invasion story



Chalk (left): rescued a girl. Bowen: shot people



she had a very strong feeling the invasion was imminent. I just burst out laughing.

Lieutenant Donald Holman aged 23, commanding amphibious platoon RASC. ABOUT midnight I went down to the beach alone. I wanted to have a look, to see what was going on and to see what we had to do to get ready for next morning. It was actually a beautiful night and as I walked along the beach I thought I was stepping on soft seaweed, but when I looked down I saw it was the bodies of our men washed up on the tide.

Excerpted from *Nothing Less Than Victory* by Russell Miller (published by Michael Joseph on October 7 at £18.99)

hand porter at Claridges in London, telling him on no account to allow the servants in the hotel to touch some dangerous medicines in my bathroom."

Lieutenant Eugene D Brierre aged 20, C Company, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. I WENT into a house where a German was lying on the floor. His gun was near him. I almost shot him, when I realised he was seriously wounded. He signalled me to hand him something. I saw that he was pointing towards a rosary. I then picked up the rosary and handed it to him. He had a look of deep appreciation in his eyes and began to pray, passing the beads through the fingers. He died shortly afterwards.

Ross Munro Canadian correspondent. THE French civilians, old men and women, young girls and children, stood on the sidewalks of the littered main street, clapped their hands, waved the troops on their way and tossed roses in their path. A girl handed me a crimson rose and there were tears of despair and joy in her eyes as

she said: "There is my home, over there. It is gone. It is ruined by the bombardment, but the Allies are here and the Boche have gone."

Private Dennis Bowen aged 18, 5th Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment. IF A German soldier appeared, everybody fired at him. It was no bother, we didn't think of them as human beings. In the excitement you fire at him. Oh, yes, I hit people. I personally saw people that I was firing at fall, on more than one occasion. I can say that without hesitation. Without bragging about being a good shot, a man only 100 or 150 yards away is an awful big target. And it's an enemy soldier, you don't just fire one shot, you fire a round, re-load and fire another, as quick as you can; another and another. Even when he has fallen you still keep firing.

Major Peter Martin aged 34, 2nd Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment. AT nine o'clock we had our corn stew, followed by treacle pudding. Everyone was in tremendous form. My sister had insisted that I take along her portable gramophone, one

of those wind-up affairs, so we played some Vera Lynn songs. Then, much to my amazement, a dispatch rider arrived with mail. I had a letter from my mother in which she said

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On Tuesday, C4 begins *Tales of the City*, a new series based on Armistead Maupin's view of San Francisco

His tales of '70s gay life already look distant and out of date

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

ARMISTEAD Maupin is large and expansive as his name: gay in both senses as given in Collins dictionary — "(a) homosexual; (b) carefree and merry". His *Tales of the City* books sell millions and are a cult. In my view, they were out-



had not yet happened, which is what makes Maupin's wise-cracking tales of free love now seem such a period piece.

His 1970s already look as distant and dated as the 1950s of *Happy Days*: unreal and risibly self-indulgent. The reason Channel 4 is making such a splash of the series is that the Americans would not touch it.

Various Hollywood studios optioned it, but backed down. CBS suggested cutting out all the gay characters, which Maupin says is like asking Dickens to cut out all the poor people. Warner Brothers suggested he turn the gay gynaeologist into a serial killer — much more acceptable.

Hollywood, addicted to violence and psychosis, balked at blithe promiscuity and drug-taking. So the series was made by a British company (Working Title) with a British director, Alastair Reid, and a script by David Kramer of *Thirtysomething*, and will be shown in the United States on PBS's Masterpiece Theatre, which usually imports British period drama like *Upstairs Downstairs* and *Brideshead*. "That's where we get class on our screens," Maupin says.

Despite our candour, however, things still get tricky whenever gay matters surface on the air. There was a waspish exchange on *Start The Week* when Maupin aggressively recalled being on the same

programme years before with Russell Harty.

What had irked Maupin was a question from Libby Purves: "I don't suppose you've ever thought of practising celibacy?" which she had properly put on behalf of the Radio 4 audience. Ms Purves leapt spiritedly to her own defence ("Writs will fly") chucked twirling Kenneth Baker, also on the programme) but as she points out, "I have gay friends, and friends with AIDS, and I love Maupin's books."

"I SAID, and I still say, that the warmth and fun in his writing was very important in helping others — and this was before the Princess or Liz Taylor had taken up the cause, when AIDS victims were still treated like lepers — to accept that even the most imprudent, promiscuous gays were human too." Her misdeed had been "to put one question that was less than reverential."

"Since he remembers it so many years later, he must have more of a chip on his shoulder than I would ever have guessed."

But the thorny issue of gay banner-waving should not occlude Maupin as cult author.

The surname is Huguenot, but he pronounces it Maw-pin. Armistead is North Carolina swank. At home they called him Teddy.

His escape from the deep South was via the Navy. He served as an officer (a gay sailor, but not until he was 26) in Vietnam, and went back there after the war as a civilian volunteer, for which he received an award from President Nixon.

He had grown up reading E. F. Benson, Evelyn Waugh, and most importantly, Jan Struther's *Mrs Miniver*, which had begun in *The Times* as a series of vignettes of London life.

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The most influential person in

Maupin's life was his English grandmother, a cousin of Dudley Ward, Rupert Brooke's literary executor, who once lived at the Old Vicarage, Grantchester (where Maupin has also stayed, before Lord Archer's residency). She was a suffragist who eloped to America in 1917. "An Auntie Mame figure in outside picture hats and her hair dyed something called champagne beige."

"SHE SPOKE out about women's rights, and raised six children by teaching elocution, and inspired me to believe that my true self was the most important face I could present to the world."

"I remember her sitting in my parents' house with the Governor of North Carolina, reading his palm, and I thought I was the luckiest kid in the world to have such an exotic grandmother."

"When she read my palm she would ask me what I wanted to be, and I would say obediently 'A lawyer, like Daddy'. And she would close my hand and change the subject."

"She knew I was destined for something else. And I took great heart from her advice: 'Don't be a silly billy and get married at 30, you won't have any idea what kind of person you are until you're at least 30'."

"I could say, don't worry granny, because by the age of 20 I knew I would break the heart of any girl I married."

His *Chronicle* columns, like Mrs Miniver's when she had to start mentioning gas masks and the looming war, became darker once AIDS broke into the idyll, and Maupin's last three *Tales of the City* are much more grim. Wide-eyed Mary Ann becomes a hardbitten TV anchorwoman prepared to ditch husband and children for a better job in New York.

But the book that best reflects Maupin's Runyonesque ability to engage readers with an assortment of oddballs is the profoundly compassionate *Maybe The Moon*, the diary of Cadence Roth, the world's shortest woman, who once played an elf in a hit film, and

years for stardom as herself, thwarted by pitiless Hollywood. The book is dedicated to his friend, the late Tamara de Treaux, who was the actress inside ET's rubber suit in Spielberg's film.

She looked "like a condensed Bette Midler", with personality and singing voice to match. "Cadence" is the most personal voice I have ever used. I could open up completely, disguised as a 31-inch-high woman."

This autumn, Ned Sherrin produces and Simon Callow is to direct a musical version of Maupin's short story, *Suddenly Home*. "It's about the time my sister Jane came to visit me and Terry in our very domestic setup, to tell us she was about to marry a man we privately referred to as the Shithead, and we tried to talk her out of it."

In the musical they sing of the vanished times when sexual adventures were care-free. As a character in the *Tales* asks, presciently: "Do you think this is all going to come crashing down? Will we all end up 50-year-old libertines in a world of 20-year-old Calvinists?"



Armistead Maupin: 'Mrs Miniver's columns began to deal with impending catastrophe. Just as I had to deal with AIDS breaking into the idyll'

Last orders for the superchefs

Many of Britain's top chefs have become media stars.

Julia Llewellyn Smith finds them in bad taste

They write books, have television series and appear regularly on the tiny pages of *Heat*. They join with Michael Caine, dorse American Express and fill slots on chat shows and marry models. Some have known to chop a few vegetables and cook a meal. Once chefs were anonymous vices, tucked away in the vile obscurity of the kitchen. Then in the 1980s, along

with the superbrat and the supermodel, came the superchef. These men had to have more than talent: they needed personality as well. They screamed "You cannot be serious" at diners who asked for Daddy's Sauce on their pan-grilled lentils.

Not everyone, however, worships the superchef. "A chef should be recognised for working 24 hours a day, not for having his photograph taken," says Albert Roux, the first chef to be awarded three Michelin stars in Britain. "Some of these young men have been built up to think they are on a par with Pavarotti. Well, if Pavarotti loses his voice, we have a tape for eternity. A meal can only be as good as it was yesterday."

Nonetheless, Mr Roux (whose face appears on several book jackets and has had various television series, as well as a column in the *Evening Standard*) was a prototypical superchef. When he arrived in Britain, 40 years ago, good food was available only to a wealthy few. "Cheap package holidays, ethnic restaurants and Berris Inns with limited menus made people see that eating out could be fun," says Roy Ackerman, the chairman of the Restaurateurs Association of Great Britain.

As the nation became more restaurant friendly, every colour supplement became filled with soft-focus portraits of char-grilled breast of duck and champagne de veau in blueberry sauce. But for a tantalised public, this was not enough. They needed a personality to focus on. Step into the camera lens Marco Pierre White, a man who not only cooked like an angel, but, to the delight of picture editors, looked like one too.

Moreover, Mr White was willing to let journalists enter the kitchen of Harvey's, his South London restaurant, where he would proceed to supply marvellous stories by berating his staff, abusing the customers and saying things like "Being a chef is all about sweat, dirt and pain". Column inches were filled with the exploits of the "Jagger of the Aga". Other restaurateurs soon latched on to the fact that a page in the tabloids was worth twice as much as a review in *Egon Ronay*.

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Mr Ackerman believes that the focus is about to return to the staff at the front of house. "The restaurant manager and the head waiter are the most important people as far as the customer is concerned. Food is not enough. Cash is short and people want a complete experience for their money."

Tom Jaine, the editor of *The Good Food Guide* agrees. "Instead of being pompous and intimidating, restaurateurs are trying to make going out to eat as pleasant as possible."

"There is still silly behaviour," he adds. "A friend of mine booked a table at a well-known restaurant. Halfway through the morning, he was asked to confirm when they wanted to turn up. When they got there, the place was virtually empty. They had been making all that fuss to show off." Earlier this week Marco Pierre White threw Mr Jaine, whose reviews have been less than adulatory, out of his new Hyde Park Hotel restaurant.

Not only have conditions improved for diners, but life for the staff is also much more bearable. Although Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons was fined earlier this week for a breach of kitchen safety after a sous chef severed his knuckles while slicing veal bones, it has still come a long way from the sweaty hellholes described by George Orwell in *Down and Out in Paris and London*.

Joel Kissin, the managing director of the Conran restaurants, says: "We have got to be more organised these days. There is a shortage of customers and a shortage of good staff and if we don't treat them well, we will get nowhere." Mr Kissin has insisted that a share of the tips go to the workers behind the scenes.

In a very British way the new breed of superchefs are ones who may never even open a restaurant. Instead they prefer to teach the public how to do it themselves.

The enormous popularity of the BBC television programme *Masterchef*, where the work is done by low-profile amateurs and the focus is on the churning guests, has proved to the nation that you don't need foreign blood to handle a bottle of balsamic vinegar. And the no-nonsense example of Delia Smith has shown that a perfect dinner can be produced with a list of ingredients that does not include a single temper tantrum.



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Philip Howard



The histories of words ensure that all translation is a qualified failure

Concord may be possible between nations, as we start hopefully on the road to concord between Israelis and Arabs. Between languages, such agreement is impossible. *Shalom*, although cognate and similar in meaning (it translates inadequately into English as "peace be with you") has different connotations from *salām*. Adjacent tribes may live in concord. But the natural state between their languages is difference, conflict, borrowing and misunderstanding. Languages are by definition untranslatable, because every word of each language is fraught with its peculiar meanings, history and grammar.

I have just proved again that they are untranslatable by turning Lord North's schoolboy Latin verses into English for a new biography. North was George III's faithful prime minister, who decided to retain the tea duty in the North American colonies and to present a Boston Port bill, so provoking the American Revolution. History, composed on the word-processors of the winners, may have written North down as a disastrous prime minister, but unlike most politicians, even in those polished days, he was an accomplished linguist and versifier. The elegiacs, written when he was a schoolboy, show a pretty wit, whether on a stock theme, probably suggested by his tutor (such as the notion that every woman has some special grace or beauty going for her) to a mock outraged attack on *Don Quixote* for telling lies, or the observation that warfare and good dinners go together.

This ends with the old racist joke, written more than 250 years ago when England was at war with France: "Let the French Frog surrender to the English roast beef, at the dinner table as well as on the battlefield." But North put more neatly in Latin, in five words instead of 20.

As a general rule, a communicator should stick to one language at a time. To spray foreign words at random, as a winning racing-driver revvingly and wastefully sprays champagne, can be a sign of pseudery and showing off. This may be suspected in the frequent use of French terms such as *oeuvre* and *oeuvre* in the lingo of English literary criticism. I find it impossible to detect any difference from the plain English "works" and "author". But even in the pretentious and exotic jargon of criticism, there are some foreign words that serve a purpose because they have no English equivalent. A *Bildungsroman* is a novel such as *David Copperfield*, concerned with the education of its hero. English has no single word for such a book. But German has a second, perhaps because this is such a popular German genre (there goes another varmint), in *Erziehungsroman*, which is as near to a synonym as you can get.

Some foreign borrowings justify their existence because of economy and elegance. Latin says *mutatis mutandis*. To catch the full meaning of the two words in English, you would need to say something like, "after the necessary and/or appropriate changes have been made". Which misses the brevity and neat internal rhyme and polyptoton (the rhetorical repetition of the same word in a different inflexion) of the Latin. Some borrowings hide their foreign origin, as in cockroach from the Spanish *cucaracha*, which 19th-century prudery has shortened to *roach* in America.

It is not surprising that Aleut has more than 50 words to describe the state of the ice, whereas Xhosa, or for that matter English, has none. It is surprising when a language has a word for a concept that is absent in a closely related language. Take for example the German word *gönnen* and the Danish word *unde*, which mean the opposite of "to envy": to be pleased with somebody else's good fortune. There is no direct translation into English, and one has to plod into periphrasis about being pleased and not begrudging. Can this mean that Germans and Danes are generous races, unlike us envious English, who cannot wait to chop our celebrities down to size and stomp on feet of clay? It would be foolish to draw any such psycholinguistic conclusions, for English has no word either for taking malicious enjoyment in the misfortunes of others. We have to borrow the German *Schadenfreude*.



Well done, Sir Bernard

Many of us are too timid to intervene if we spot a crime being committed; but where will it end if we do nothing?

I have been enchanted by the story of Sir Bernard Ingham, Crookfinder-General to the nation. The story was played out some time ago, but the issues involved continue to echo.

I have no personal acquaintance with Sir Bernard, though I could hardly have escaped all knowledge of him in the years in which he served Margaret Thatcher as her press secretary. On that subject, all I would wish to say today is that the fidelity, care and unstinted service he gave the then prime minister make a notable and permanent high-water mark on our political system, though perhaps I might add that when he was dealing with the press it would have been the height of folly for anybody to believe anything he said without independent corroboration, preferably including at least two bishops.

For those who missed the episode or have forgotten it, I must rehearse the course of justice that Sir Bernard followed. Travelling on the London Underground, he saw a crime being committed. It was not much of a crime to wit, the offence of travelling without a ticket and with intent to evade paying. The offender had illegally pushed through the automatic gates, which should flip open only when the ticket is inserted. Sir Bernard saw the miscreant at his miscreanting, and called out: "Hey, you shouldn't be doing that, you should be paying your fare."

The miscreant now made his first and last mistake: he said to Sir Bernard "What's it got to do with you?" To the miscreant's question, Sir Bernard replied with a crisp lecture entitled "Why it has got to do with everybody", which by all accounts held the audience spellbound. A policeman appeared and took over; Sir Bernard outlined the events of the day, and later on all these happenings were discussed in court. Bernard the Avenger gave his evidence, and the scowling was fined not only for cheating the Underground, but also for using offensive language. (He had no money, so he couldn't pay the fines, and anyway he didn't turn up to the court, but none of that detracts from Sir Bernard's hour of uprightness.)

There are items which need examining. For instance, Sir Bernard, giving evidence, said that the villain "started to intimidate me". It is well known that I am a particularly trusting and unscrupulous man, but even I cannot believe that

the most intrepid fare-dodger in history would be so foolish as to try to intimidate Sir Bernard Ingham. Moreover, it transpired that during the events, Sir Bernard "wasn't frightened": since a runaway steamroller would be needed to make Sir Bernard even mildly nervous, that must be the most odious statement made in the entire business.

By now you must be thinking that there is something important amid the hilarity. It is, of course, the question we all ask ourselves in such circumstances, viz., would we do what Sir Bernard did? It is all very well to say that wrong-doers should not get away with their wrong-doing while the bystanders do nothing, but Sir Bernard, after all, did not know whether the offender had a knife in his pocket or, if he had, whether he would use it. These days, too, we are all well aware of drugs and of what

people can do to get their poison; this time the fare-dodger turned out to be a fare-dodger, but again, Sir Bernard did not know that he was not facing a junkie desperate for a fix. But leave out the dangers. We can all agree that he was public-spirited in what he did; what I want to test is ourselves. The criminal was obviously committing a very small crime, one that would not cause real damage to our society, as a crime would that involved violence or a robbery of a substantial sum. So why not slip away? After all, to start a scene can be embarrassing, many, I am sure, when they heard the shouting, believed that the red-faced man was drunk, and hurried off without knowing that red-faced man was anything but drunk. And of course, Sir Bernard must have known at the time he took action that London Underground would not come to a permanent halt, or even an intermittent halt, if it were cheated out of 90p.

Very well; 90p and we turn our heads the other way. But then we must climb the ladder. A trivial fare-dodge is one

thing; what about seeing a traveller, all oblivious, having his pocket picked? Do you go up to the thief, Ingham-wise, and confront him, or do you tap the robbed man on the shoulder, whisper the news, and point out the thief? The first course is braver, obviously, but the less brave is at least drawing attention to the crime, even without taking direct part in any attempt at apprehension.

Another rung up the ladder; what about violence? We are a peaceable people; it is all very well talking about the rising crime rate, but what happens when you find yourself inside the rising crime rate looking out? Are obvious villains violently attacking an obviously innocent man? We hesitate, and as we hesitate we climb another rung of the ladder: what about a woman being attacked with violence?

Now, for me the very thought of violence to a woman is so pathologically horrific that it must have some more profound psychological aspect, though I cannot recall anything in my life which would give a clue to such feelings. But of one thing I can be sure: if I did have the courage to go to the rescue of a woman who was being attacked I would instantly throw away any thought of the *Marquess of Queensberry*: I would go in, boots and all, and if I crippled the villain in doing so, I would have not so much as a twinge of remorse. For me, and I should hope for most men, it also works the other way round: there are no circumstances in which I might even contemplate striking a woman.

Yes, but for that matter, there are no circumstances in which I might even contemplate dodging the Underground, let alone British Rail. I have told the story of the sticky sweet in Woolworths, but I don't think I have told the one that goes with it.

I once entered the Underground at a Tube station that I had never used before, and discovered that the steps

went down to an entry without a ticket office, though the trains stopped there. (This was before the new system with automatic gates and tickets.) I got into the train. As the doors shut I realised I had not paid. I was travelling on the Underground without a ticket. I took money from my pocket, put it in my palm and held the hand right out as though my arm was paralysed; if an inspector had come along he could not possibly have thought I was bilking the system (though he might — probably would — think I was mad), but though no inspector came, I shook throughout the journey, and practically danced with joy when I got to the barrier at my destination and flung far more money than was necessary at the startled booking-office clerk.

We must go back to the beginning, to the truly trivial crime of 90p bilked from the Underground, and we find to our dismay that we are on an escalator. There is no break between the 90p and the thousands of pounds stolen or the robbery with violence. We cannot promise to try to stop a murderer, but by failing to stop a fare-dodger we may have set him on the road to murder. Sir Bernard, we conclude, was twice a hero. Well, well.

I failed once. Two young boys emerged from Debenhams, one of them stuffing a scarf under his jacket; it was quite clear that they had stolen it. I should have grabbed them, lectured them, and sent them back into the shop to put back the scarf as surreptitiously as they had taken it. I did not do so, and perhaps I then set two children on the path of crime; I can only hope not. I thank my stars that there is in me a horror of even the tiniest and most insignificant law-breaking — a horror, that is, in its intensity, close to madness. Indeed, there is one story from my childhood, at the age of nine, as innocent as anything could possibly be, which I have never told to anyone and never shall, though I am convinced that it has permanently damaged my life.

We have come far from Sir Bernard's admirable action, but we might, all of us, benefit by shinning a little longer about it. Mind you, if we think long enough, we shall start wondering why Sir Bernard, who can hardly be short of a few bawbees, was travelling on the Underground, rather than in a car or a taxi.

Why won't the UN talk peace?

Sam Kiley blames intransigence for Somalia's agony

Two words come to mind when assessing the role of the United Nations in Somalia: "ignorant" and "stupid".

Ignorant because the most senior United Nations officials in the country, Admiral Jonathan Howe and his deputy, Lansana Kouyate, have shown a puzzling reluctance to learn the basic cultural history of Somalia, which is at the root of troubles today. But until they understand something of this history, the United Nations will be unable to withdraw from the region.

Stupid, because on Tuesday night, in talks mediated by two British journalists — myself and the correspondent of *The Guardian* — at the request of General Aidid's Somali National Alliance (SNA), Mr Kouyate — who is one of the most highly paid diplomats in the United Nations — failed to grasp the opportunity offered in face-to-face talks to open formal negotiations with the SNA. Such negotiations could end nearly four months of bloody clashes between the United Nations and militia-men, which have left 52 United Nations soldiers and about 500 Somalis dead.

Bringing Professor Issa Mohamed Siad, the SNA delegate, to meet Mr Kouyate involved my *Guardian* colleague and me collecting him from the grounds of a hospital which is notorious as a militia base for attacks on the United Nations forces. Gunmen were gathering throughout the city to avenge the capture of one of General Aidid's closest aides, Ali Hassan Osman, by United States rangers earlier in the day. American cobra helicopters hovered overhead, waiting for a chance to fire at the gunmen with their 20mm cannon.

At the meeting — which we were attending as independent witnesses at the insistence of the SNA — Professor Siad asked, unrealistically, for the release of Mr Osman. Mr Kouyate, who had not seen a member of General Aidid's organisation for 16 days while Mogadishu had been in a state of war, rejected the request. Instead he gave a tiresome history of past talks, which he repeated three times at growing volume, and blamed the SNA for weakening his position as a moderate among the United Nations military hawks.

The United Nations' military operation is in a state of near collapse in Mogadishu — and the rest is spreading to other cities. This week, French troops and members of the Rahan Weyn clan have been fighting fiercely around the interior town of Dinsor.

In the capital, the Pakistani military, who have lost most men, now refuse to go on any but the safest operations. Seven Nigerians have been killed because they refused to bribe their way into a checkpoint in the most dangerous part of town — as the Italian contingent had done before. The Italians are leaving in a huff at not being put in charge of the operation.

The Saudis and men from the United Arab Emirates are popular because they do little. And the American troops, numbering about 2,000, are understandably fed up with being the only men involved in the search for General Aidid and his militia-men.

Somali clan elders have been meeting to discuss their next military move. Some of them favour an all-out assault on the United Nations forces. Others want to take American soldiers hostage.

Meanwhile military spokesmen for the United Nations have describe women and children near the fighting as "combatants" and as "legitimate targets". Detainees are not allowed legal counsel and can be held as long as the United Nations commanders deem necessary.

The SNA says it wanted to ask Mr Kouyate to announce that the United Nations has been talking to its officers about Mr Osman and other issues, but the United Nations diplomat did not give their delegate the chance to make this suggestion.

Mr Osman, together with General Aidid and the other warlords, was responsible for last year's famine and the exploitation of aid agencies which precipitated the American invasion of Somalia last December. But his Habre Gedir clan see him as a liberationist hero, and a respected source of charity. It is a matter of pride among them to avenge his disappearance.

If the SNA and the United Nations had agreed on Tuesday to make public a discussion about Mr Osman, the prestige of the doves might have been enhanced, and the growing divisions among General Aidid's supporters would have been further widened. As it is, General Aidid's hawks are expected to step up their assaults on United Nations soldiers, and even to target civilians as well.

"Aidid", Admiral Howe has said, "has excluded himself from talks." This is a serious error of judgment. Somalis are passionate, arrogant, and violent. They fight among themselves constantly — but they also make peace constantly. Two weeks ago, I watched as elders from a couple of clans made peace between themselves less than two hours after a skirmish over car looting had resulted in the deaths of at least five youngsters on each side. If the United Nations continues to fail to comprehend Somalia and Somalis, there will be no victors in the battle for Mogadishu: only an increasing toll of deaths.

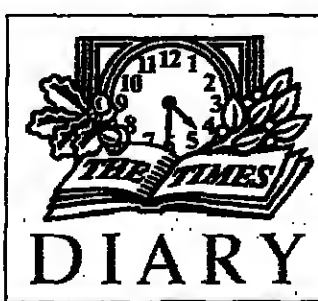
Phantom scribbler

SIR Andrew Lloyd Webber's rap-prochement with Britain's arts establishment continues apace. Already knighted, and with former critics such as Sir Malcolm Williamson queuing to see his latest work, Lloyd Webber has now received the ultimate accolade: he has been put up for membership of the Garrick Club.

Lloyd Webber has been proposed by Sir David Napley, solicitor to the rich and famous, and Melvyn Bragg, novelist, broadcaster and LWT millionaire. But whether Lloyd Webber will join Kenneth Clarke, Donald Sinden and others is open to doubt. In the candidates' book in which his name has just been entered in blue ink, his profession is given as "composer". Next to it a member has written in a question mark.

Bragg is keen for Lloyd Webber to be accepted, although is resigned to the election process, which can take five years. He says: "Andrew is the leader in his field, and the Garrick has always embraced people from musical theatre. He is very good company and I'm sure the other members will be delighted to have him." Tim Rice, another Garrick member, will no doubt welcome the chance to discuss old times.

● Melvyn Bragg's perceived sphere of influence may be widening still further. At the launch yesterday of BBC's new Omnibus series at the Ivy restaurant in Covent Garden, a fire broke out in the kitchens, forcing revellers onto the pavement for 20 minutes. Omnibus editor Nigel Williams was overheard muttering that arch-rival Bragg, editor and presenter of LWT's South Bank Show, must have orchestrated the whole thing. "But", says a colleague, "I think it was meant in jest."



A well-timed word

IN THE wake of John Smith's performance at the TUC conference in Brighton, the Tribune Group is clearly leaving nothing to chance. A virtually identical advertisement appeared in yesterday's *Tribune* — but with one important addition. It still reads "Labour and the unions together," it said.

"Keep the Link." But with the debate over one-member-one-vote reaching its climax next week, the group is leaving nothing to chance. A virtually identical advertisement appeared in yesterday's *Tribune* — but with one important addition. It still reads "Labour and the unions together," it said. "Keep the Link." But with the debate over one-member-one-vote reaching its climax next week, the group is leaving nothing to chance. A virtually identical advertisement appeared in yesterday's *Tribune* — but with one important addition. It still reads "Labour and the unions together," it said.

Over and out

THE Liberal Democrat conference duly drew to a close yesterday without a single sighting of Des Wilson, the 52-year-old New Zealander who ran the Lib Dems' general election campaign, is now communications director of Burson-Marsteller, the PR company.

"I reached a point when people crossed the road when they saw me coming," he says. "It's a young man's game now. There comes a time when if you've led a number of campaigns you cannot credibly run another. People will simply become bored with you. I needed a fresh challenge; I was just doing the same thing again and again. Yup, that sounds like politics."

Bouncing back

BOB SCOTT, the architect of Manchester's bid for the 2000 Olympics, is clearly not above hedging his bets. But his outside interests need not endanger his chances of being granted the freedom of the North-West. For Scott has been called upon to advise how best to mark the centenary of one of the region's best known landmarks — the Blackpool Tower.

Barry Morris, the director of tourism in Blackpool, says that Scott's help has been invaluable.

"He came here for lunch and talked to us about various things, including ways to acquire funding and sponsorship for our celebrations. Thousands of people will be coming here, and while we cannot compare with the Olympics, Bob Scott was only too delighted to offer us some useful pointers."

But the tower is not the only Blackpool landmark that will be celebrating a milestone birthday next year. The Grand Theatre, which has undergone £12 million of improvements, will also be 100 years old in 1994, as is Yates's Wine Lodge, and the Association of Conservative Clubs will also be coming to Blackpool next year — to celebrate its centenary.

Why not start the Blackpool 2004 campaign now and have done with it?



Uncertain age

NAIM ATTALLAH, publisher, jeweller and the indulgent patron of *The Literary Review*, is a man unused to rejections. But now he has been turned down — by Lord Tebbit. For Tebbit has refused to be interviewed for his latest anthology of interviews, *Mora of a Certain Age* because, says Attallah, "He said he was too young".

Attallah, whose interviewees for the new volume include Lady Soames, Sir Laurens van der Post and Patricia Highsmith, is disappointed, but he reluctantly admits that at a mere 62, Tebbit may have a point. "I was running out of oldies," he explains.

● Glynis Kinnock took a moment off on Wednesday night from the launch of her new book, *By Faith and Daring* (a volume of interviews with "34 bold, radical and resourceful women") — to play the role of proud mother. Accompanied by husband Neil, she was clearly delighted with the news that Stephen, her 23-year-old son, has become the first Kinnock to get to Brussels, having landed the post of researcher to Labour MEP Gary Titley. "Stephen got that job on the basis of his own ability," she said, before melting away into the bold, radical and resourceful throng.



A SPORTING DECISION

Sydney is a worthy host for the Olympics

The award of the millennium Olympics to Sydney last night was for Britons, a disappointment tinged with relief. It is regrettable that Manchester's fine bid, persuasively supported by John Major in Monte Carlo yesterday, was not favoured by the 89 voters on the International Olympic Committee. Sydney is a worthy victor; but any of the other finalists would have been preferable to Peking. The IOC has stepped back from the brink of a decision that would have shamed the movement of which it is the custodian.

Manchester should take heart from its achievement in mounting the most impressive bid in British Olympic history — far better than its own campaign for the 1996 Games and Birmingham's for the 1992 event. Success would have brought a spree of much-needed investment to the North West; but even in failure the bid has already attracted £200 million to the city. Nor is there any reason why Manchester should not mount a third campaign to host the Olympics, as it has been hinted that it might.

Yet Peking's failure is more important than Manchester's. Before yesterday's vote, the Chinese bid appeared to be strong favourite and was defended on Monday in an extraordinary outburst by Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the IOC. To have awarded the event to Peking would have been to confer a completely undeserved legitimacy upon a totalitarian regime that routinely murders and imprisons its political opponents and makes no secret of its contempt for human rights.

China's bid should in fact have fallen at an earlier hurdle, given the selectors' own finding that its proposals were technically inferior to those of Sydney, Manchester, and Berlin. The fact that Peking was so strongly supported by so many powerful voices on the committee must call into question the composition and agenda of the IOC. The

committee is a self-selecting assembly whose members are nominated by the chairman. Mr Samaranch has encouraged the IOC's absurd pretensions as a force in international politics, requesting observer status at the United Nations and, more recently, a formal connection with the security council. The committee is also alleged to be seeking the Nobel Peace Prize. Increasingly, its actions appear to be driven by crude geopolitics rather than love of sport and the Olympic ideal. By selecting Sydney rather than Peking, under intense international pressure, it has saved itself at the eleventh hour from huge discredit.

There can be no doubt that Australia will be an excellent Olympic host and Sydney a beautiful setting for the event. In the fiercest competition to host a Games in Olympic history, its bid was technically unrivalled and well promoted in yesterday's presentation by Paul Keating, the Australian prime minister. The organisers, aware that Sydney's distance from the rest of the world might influence voters, shrewdly offered free travel to all officials and athletes.

The rewards of this successful campaign will be great and are well deserved. Following the astonishing boost given to the Spanish economy by the Barcelona Olympics, the organisers of the Sydney campaign expect the Australian economy to be better off by more than £3 billion.

The principal difficulty faced by the city now will be to make itself sufficiently attractive to Western television networks. But there can be no doubt that Australia's evolving sense of national identity and economic leadership in the southern hemisphere — closely linked to its republican aspirations — will be given a tremendous filip by the award of the most prestigious sporting event in the world. All nations should salute Sydney's achievement and look forward to a majestic Games.

ARRANGED MARRIAGES

In politics, unlikely bedfellows do not always unite a party

After the pound had suffered a humiliating devaluation, the prime minister was forced to elevate his main rival to the chancellorship. As the prime minister's stock fell, the Chancellor rose; but the occupant of Number 11 was still distrusted by one wing of the party. There was talk of a dream ticket to topple the weak prime minister and unite the party.

The year was 1967, the prime minister Harold Wilson, the proposed dream ticket made up of Chancellor Roy Jenkins and James Callaghan. The Callaghan-Jenkins axis never materialised, and Lord Wilson remained in Number 10. The parallels with today are by no means exact, but those who now promote the dream ticket of Kenneth Clarke and Michael Portillo are as dissatisfied with John Major as much of the Labour party was then with Lord Wilson.

Dream tickets originated on the other side of the Atlantic. They are the very stuff of American politics. Running mates are often chosen to complement presidential candidates, geographically and politically. In Britain, such partnerships are more rare.

The Labour party has the most precedents. Ernest Bevin, as foreign secretary, was an essential foil to Clement Attlee's premiership. Bevin was the solid, working-class hero who could keep the labour movement in line while Attlee — the middle-class Fabian from a public-service tradition — ran the country. George Brown might have performed a similar role as deputy to Harold Wilson, but he was too unpopular with the unions. The "dream ticket" phrase first crossed the Atlantic when Roy Hattersley, from the right, was elected deputy leader to the left-wing Neil Kinnock. That marriage, however, was not a happy one, with Mr Hattersley barely able to conceal his

impatience with the young Welshman.

The Conservatives have been less prone to adopt such manoeuvres, perhaps because, until the 1980s, they were less ideological than Labour. Margaret Thatcher did not much care whether her party was behind her, and when she had three-figure parliamentary majorities, she did not much need to — until the end. But William Whitelaw, for a time was a good counterpoint to her: he hailed from the left of the party and appealed to old-fashioned shire Conservatives, while she was the darling of the new, suburban Tory voter.

Some Tories now believe that only a two-man ticket reflecting both sides of the party can unite them; and a few right-wingers have suggested that they would support Mr Clarke for leader provided that he appointed Mr Portillo to a senior position and dampened his own Euroscepticism.

Their argument rests, however, on an inconsistency. They are prepared to back Mr Clarke, even though he represents the wrong wing of the party, because he seems to have the leadership talents that Mr Major lacks. Above all he is his own man. Yet if that is the case, why should he be expected to take the job on other people's terms?

He might well decide, wisely, to appoint people such as Mr Portillo to important jobs; but that would be his own decision. And like many leaders, he might temper his own views to match more closely those of the party. But to expect him to tie himself in advance to Mr Portillo would make the pair of them as ungainly as a team in a three-legged race. If the Tories want Mr Clarke to lead them, they will have to accept him for what he is. In the meantime they can only prepare for the conference that will help them make up their minds.

WORKING TO LIVE

Having a job seems to be necessary for self-esteem

Buried in the almost impenetrable jargon of a British Psychological Society paper, is an observation about modern attitudes that has real political significance. What it suggests is that the kind of self-esteem and satisfaction that most people feel to be necessary for a fulfilled life can rarely be achieved outside of paid work. In other words, no matter how worthwhile or energetic a leisure pastime may be, it cannot impart the same sense of purpose and self-respect as a "proper" job.

The research paper, by Dr John Haworth of Manchester University, does not simply equate this unique kind of satisfaction with the fact of being paid. There seems to be a more subtle psychological difference between working for a livelihood and even the most assiduous hobby. What is suggested by the responses of those who filled in Dr Haworth's questionnaires is that the very constraints of working life are what make it satisfying. The findings refer to factors like time structure, social contact, collective purpose, social identity or status, and regular activity. In plain English, these amount to having to be at a given place at a given time with actual deadlines for uncompleted tasks, working toward some larger goal with a team of people in which everyone has a specified role and having all of this take place in some customary, habitual way.

Being compelled to take part by some force outside of personal whim — what Dr

Haworth calls "extrinsic" motivation" as opposed to "intrinsic" — seems to be the key factor in making paid work a more valuable source of psychological well-being. Having objectives and structures imposed by others lends credibility to an enterprise. In leisure activities — even ones that are socially useful — the freedom to create personal goals and time limits often degenerates into an open-ended activity in which people find it difficult to maintain a sense of purpose.

People specifically mentioned that being at work often involved doing things which were initially disliked. The overcoming of their own resistance to complete the task gave a form of gratification that was peculiarly difficult to match outside of the workplace. Anecdotal evidence supports these findings. Paid work now seems to be taken as the measure of successful adulthood in a way that it would not have been a century ago when whole classes of society did not expect to work for a living. The fact that virtually all unpaid activity is now regarded as "leisure" — and by connotation, unserious — shows how much the idea of employment dominates modern life.

The impact of this cultural shift has been felt in the devaluing of voluntary activities and of unpaid home-making skills for women. No government hoping to revive the voluntary sector and to deal realistically with the effects of high unemployment can afford to ignore its effects.

Engineering education in decline

From the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Portsmouth

Sir, I have recently returned from a visit to Malaysia and Singapore, countries which have booming economies, national development plans and a huge commitment by their populations to succeed. An atmosphere of confidence seemingly pervades wherever one goes.

The Singapore government plans by 1998 to have 40 per cent of its school-leavers participating in full-time higher education to the British equivalent of higher diploma level. In the next four years some 1,000 new lecturers in engineering will be recruited to the polytechnics in Singapore in order to accommodate this growth. There is no thought that the plan will not be achieved.

There are similar policies for expansion in Malaysia. The motivation is to feed the booming manufacturing base of Singapore, Malaysia and South-East Asia.

In the UK today major British universities, some with the greater part of a century's experience and dedication to engineering education, are having great difficulty in recruiting adequate numbers of first-year students to their high-quality courses. Government, together with the higher education funding councils, took steps in 1987 to fund access and foundation courses for engineering degree courses as a consequence of a reducing supply of satisfactorily qualified school-leavers.

These courses have been successful in slowing the rate of decline in the demand for engineering degree places but constitute an insufficient response to the accelerating problem of supplying British manufacturing industry with appropriately qualified graduates.

Our national curriculum provides

for all pupils in schools to study science and mathematics up to the age of 16. This development has rightly received general support, not least because it has been hoped that many 16-year-old students will continue to study sciences and mathematics in the sixth form or at tertiary college and hence provide an adequate supply of satisfactorily qualified students for degree courses in engineering and science.

Science and mathematics teaching should be delivered by those who are well qualified and strongly motivated. The increasing and alarming scarcity of such teachers is well known. The prospect of a public-sector pay freeze cannot augur well for any increase in the volume of supply of such important staff. Other employers naturally will compete for their talents.

There will be a further erosion of the UK's manufacturing base if there is a decline in the number of high-quality engineering and science graduates from UK universities. Such a decline should not be contemplated. A plan must be produced and implemented to ensure that large numbers of school-leavers, and those who study in further education institutions, are able to exercise the choice whether or not to study engineering and science at university.

Sadly, for our nation, the number of those who are able to make this choice is dwindling at a rate which should prompt not only national concern but also effective action.

Yours faithfully,
NEIL MERRITT,
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Portsmouth,
Winston Churchill Avenue,
Portsmouth, Hampshire,
September 21.

Millwall by-election

From Mrs Barbara Roche, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green (Labour)

Sir, Central government bears a heavy responsibility for a climate in which racist attacks in inner city areas have become everyday occurrences, and racist attitudes more acceptable (Letters, September 21, 23). When reported racist attacks have gone up from 4,383 in 1983 to 7,793 in 1992 and the British Crime Survey suggests that only one in ten such attacks is reported, ministers should announce measures to combat such a situation.

Instead, when the Home Office minister Peter Lloyd appeared before the home affairs select committee on July 14 and I put to him that the government's Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act had contributed to a climate of intolerance and racism, he pooh-poohed the idea. Similarly he

dismissed suggestions that race relations would not be helped by cutting by 30 per cent the section 11 grant, which enables minority ethnic groups to gain access to services and facilities.

Nor is the Home Office prepared to reconsider its decision to close by next April the remaining safe cities projects in London, many of which have given priority to combating racial harassment.

We, the vast majority of people in Britain who are horrified by reports that councillors have to cancel their meetings because of the fear of race attacks (report, September 22), must tell this government loud and clear that those of its actions that jeopardise tolerance in community relations are unacceptable.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA ROCHE,
House of Commons.

Mad Mullah's mantle

From Mr D. W. Stewart

Sir, Mr Hall is not entirely correct in his assertion (Letter, September 20) that the periods of British and Italian rule in Somalia were periods of peace and tranquillity. History is repeating itself. The clans are now uniting against what they perceive as a new imperial threat, posed by the US-backed UN.

Sayid Muhammad Abdullah Hassan was dubbed "The Mad Mullah" by the British, presumably on the basis that anyone who took on the might of the British Empire must be mad. He succeeded in uniting the clans and evading capture for almost 30 years (1890-1920). He defeated

almost every British force sent against him. In desperation the British even sent RAF bombers against him. It was considered cheaper than sending troops.

General Aidid is rapidly assuming the Mullah's mantle. The ease with which he evades the US Special Forces and their helicopter gunships is turning him into a folk hero.

"Operation Restore Hope" has failed in two of its main objectives: to eliminate a charismatic leader, and to disarm the clans. Until that is done, little will be achieved.

Yours sincerely,
D. W. STEWART,
36 Bedford Avenue, Edinburgh 4,
September 21.

Nursery charmers

From Mrs P. M. Meynell

Sir, Dr Cullen (Letter, September 11) misses the point. Beatrix Potter's stories were not written for the entertainment of lady doctors but for little children, to whom they have given much pleasure and even some instruction. In addition to the delightful illustrations, the simple structure of the sentences is occasionally enriched with an unexpected polysyllable. One young listener to whom I was reading was prompted to ask "What does soporific mean?"

The escapades of these nursery charmers in their little jackets and frocks are encapsulated in the magical world of childhood. To try to dislodge them and place them in a socio-political frame is to breach that world, which time will inevitably dissolve.

Yours sincerely,
P. M. MEYNELL,
The Pig and Whistle Cottage,
Hidcote Boyce,
Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire,
September 13.

Saudi reforms

From Mr Giama Bukleb

Sir, The Saudi regional assemblies to which Michael Binyon refers in his report of September 18 ("Fahd sets up assemblies to counter radical threat") are intended to promote the process of modernisation and democratisation already begun in the kingdom.

This process received a boost last month with the announcement of a new basic system of rule, the appointment of a 60-member Shura (i.e., consultative) Council and the development of a new regional policy aimed at reducing bureaucracy in the provinces.

The Shura Council, as well as providing specialised and highly qual-

fied technocrats in its advisory role to the King, has the right to propose laws. These laws will then be passed to the Council of Ministers for codification; both the council and regional assemblies represent a broadening of the principle of Islamic consultation. All these steps have been broadly welcomed in the kingdom, by both liberal reformers and religious conservatives alike.

It is obvious from Mr Binyon's article that those he describes as "human rights champions" are members of the so-called "Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights", who delivered an advisory letter to King Fahd last year, in which they revealed their allegiance to the Iranian and Sudanese governments. Far

The realities of Sunday shopping

From the Chief Executive of the Consumers' Association

Sir, Mr S. Hampson, chairman of the John Lewis Partnership (Letter, September 18), has an axe to grind, and the sparks are flying so thick and fast that he seems unable to perceive the reality of Sunday shopping.

The vast majority of small shops have for decades been "flouting... the rule of Parliament" — or, as we would put it, catering to their customers' wishes — without incurring Mr Hampson's wrath. Indeed, they have been the prime victims of sporadic, ill-fated attempts to enforce the law strictly. Large supermarkets, which can legally sell more than half their product range on Sundays, have succumbed to consumer pressure late in the day; regular Sunday opening has been the norm only since Christmas 1991, when the validity of the Shops Act was thrown into doubt under European law.

Mr Hampson doubts whether the vast numbers of people shopping on Sunday — 25 million of them — support Sunday trading. These people are hardly shopping against their will. They want to shop on a Sunday, they are shopping on a Sunday.

That aside, it is arrogant to question the mass of opinion research conducted by us and others for 20 years, which has consistently indicated strong public support (two-thirds of the population) for the freedom to shop on Sundays.

It is a sign of Mr Hampson's lack of respect for public opinion that he limits his fury against law-breakers to the very stores that people most want to use on Sundays. Supermarkets regularly feature in research as the most popular Sunday shopping venues, closely followed by DIY stores and garden centres. Local convenience stores tend to trail fourth or fifth.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BEISHON,
Chief Executive,
Consumers' Association,
2 Marylebone Road, NW1,
September 20.

From the Joint Managing Director of Sainsbury's

Sir, Your report on National Sunday Shopping Day (September 20) included the suggestion that big company money was having an undue influence on the Sunday trading reform debate.

This is not true. The only serious attempt to change the Sunday trading law — the 1986 Shops Bill — was defeated. The small minority of the population opposed to Sunday shopping created a clamour which persuaded MPs that their views enjoyed far more public support than they actually did.

The object of National Sunday Shopping Day was simple: to give those people who enjoy shopping on Sunday, but prefer to go about their business quietly, the opportunity to make their voices heard: 1.69 million of them took the opportunity. The message was clear: people enjoy shopping on Sunday and want to be able to carry on doing so.

Like everyone else, we believe that Sunday should be a special day. It should be special in that people should be free to choose how they wish to spend it. Consequently, we are pressing for the law to be reformed — for small shops to be open at any time,

and large shops for just six hours. The law should also protect those individuals who do not wish to work on Sundays.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID QUARMBY,
Joint Managing Director,
Sainsbury's,
Stamford House,
Stamford Street, SE1,
September 21.

From Mr David A. A. Amess, MP for Basildon (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Hampson, chairman of the John Lewis Partnership, does well to highlight the fact that, until the present Shops Act is changed, it remains the law of the land, and to remind all concerned that this is a very complex issue. It needs to be properly debated in Parliament on a government bill (yet to be published) and decided on a free vote of MPs.

The costly campaigns being waged by certain large retailers and some of their staff on members of Parliament and others, which include exhortations to visit stores on Sundays "to see shoppers shop", underestimate the intelligence of their audience and may turn out to be counter-productive to their wishes.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID AMESS,
House of Commons,
September 20.

From Mr Bob Clough-Parker

Sir, Your coverage of National Sunday Shopping Day should spur on other citizens who enjoy being invited to break the law.

I am therefore declaring next Sunday "National Child-beating Day" and the Sunday after "National Breaking the Speed Limit Day".

On yesterday's evidence no one should harbour any fears about being prosecuted or Parliament being concerned.

Yours faithfully,
BOB CLOUGH-PARKER,
The Bond, Godstall Lane,
Chester, Cheshire,
September 20.

Palace souvenirs

From Councillor Harvey Marshall

Sir, May I put the record straight about Westminster City Council and Buckingham Palace selling souvenirs on Sunday. Contrary to the claim made by Bernard Levin (September 21), I have never said that the Queen should abide by her own laws, which would be both a statement of the obvious and an impertinence to Her Majesty.

The council's policy on Sunday trading is to investigate any complaints about non-compliance that we receive. We had two complaints earlier in the summer about the Palace. Officials put matters right in a speedy and amicable fashion.

Yours sincerely,
HARVEY MARSHALL,
(Chairman, Environment Sub-committee),
Westminster City Council,
PO Box 240, Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1,
September 21.

Business letters, page 29

Minoan mystery

From Dr Ian Blake

Sir, Norman Hammond's report and pictures (September 21) on computer enhancement of the head of the "Naked Boy" Minoan wall-painting from Akrotiri on the island of Thera provokes interesting speculation.

I had always assumed that the rather sharp, upturned, nose of the original restoration was due to distortion caused by crumbled plaster and missing paint.

If the new digitising process is accurate, then it seems that the "snub nose" reflects an artist's observation, 3,500 years ago, that it differed from the longer, straighter nose more commonly depicted.

This, in its turn, promotes intriguing questions, not merely as to the ethnic origins of the "Naked Boy", but also about the nature and origin of a ceremony, important enough to be so strikingly commemorated, in which a foreign youth played an essential part.

Yours faithfully,
IAN BLAKE,
(Curator),
The Museum, Charterhouse,
Godalming, Surrey,
September 21.

Judges of distinction

From Sir Robert Megarry, FBA

Sir, In your obituary of Sir Anthony Goffman (September 11) you say that it was his "misfortune" to be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Chancery Division of the High Court during a period "when not all of its members were regarded as being especially distinguished".

No division of the High Court in which every single member could be regarded as being "especially distinguished" has ever existed or is likely to exist; but if the statement is to be taken not literally (when it would be pointless) but as an assertion that the Chancery bench of his day lacked distinction, it is impossible to agree.

During Tony Goffman's year and a quarter as vice-chancellor, one of the ten other Chancery judges went to the Court of Appeal; and of the ten in office when he retired, six were later members of the Court of Appeal, three of them subsequently going on to the House of Lords.

I am sure that he never regarded himself as suffering any "misfortune" in being responsible for running a division containing such judges. I certainly did not when I succeeded him as vice-chancellor.

I am, Sir,
R. E. MEGARRY,
5 Stone Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

Proprietary rights

From Mr Michael Abbott

Sir, I have just received an advertising leaflet from Parcellor International extolling the virtues of their new "Worldwide Courier Pack". I am addressed as "Soul Proprietor, Michael Abbott Distributor". Perhaps this should have been sent to Mephistopheles.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ABBOTT,
56 Tophill Street, Minster, Kent,
September 11.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

VARINDRA VITTACHI

Varindra Tarzie Vittachi, deputy executive director of Unicef, 1980-88, died in Chinnor, Oxfordshire, on September 17 aged 71. He was born in Ceylon on September 23, 1921.

"TARZIE," as he was best known, served the United Nations for twenty years, rising in 1983 to the rank of an assistant secretary-general. He was the antithesis of the cautiously prudent public servant. He could easily take on the demeanour of a guru or the fire of a revivalist preacher. He was irreverent towards institutions and prepared to be agreeably reckless in his assault on pomp. In 1988, in an article for *Condé Nast's* *Traveler* magazine, he revealed how, for 25 years, he had regularly bamboozled immigration and customs officials around the world by travelling on the documents of the sovereign republic of Amnesia. (He also decorated his passport with the honey rubber stamp of "Dr Portly Rumbel of the Quarantine Department".)

A journalist before he became an international administrator, he had to time at all for any institution that contrived to put its own dignity before the needs of individuals. In his political play of the United Nations, his slogan was "Everything is about something else". The Third World as a rallying cry, he once wrote, was a piece of counterfeit jargon. "Singapore with a per capita income of \$4,430 and even Saudi Arabia with \$18,344 per capita along to the Third World. The possibility that they themselves might wish it that way for other reasons does not remove its absurdity."

Political correctness was alien to his vocabulary. His best known



book, *Brown Sahib* (1968), satirised the rulers who succeeded the British, but wanted to imitate their former imperial masters; he hilariously revised the scene about which he had written in 1968.

Working with such enterprising UN officials as Rafael Salas and then Jim Grant, Tarzie Vittachi's candour and distinctive style were a plus

rather than a minus. He was appointed executive secretary of World Population Year in 1974, director of information for the UN Population Fund from 1975 to 1979, and was deputy executive director of Unicef with responsibility for external affairs from 1980 to 1988. Thereafter he served as a consultant to the United Nations Development Pro-

gramme and Unicef until his death. Vittachi's early experience in journalism always informed his energetic diplomacy. He was on first-name terms with almost all the heads of government and opinion-formers in Asia, though he was for many years regarded as a firebrand. He was the son of a schoolmaster and became a headmaster himself when he was 23, but his lively conscience and love of language led him on to a polemical newspaper career.

In 1953, when he was 32, he became editor of the *Ceylon Observer* and in 1958 exposed the role of the government of Mrs Bandaranaike in the incitement of race riots. For this account, published in book form as *Emergency*, 58, he won the Magasaysay prize in 1959 and had to flee his native land. He was for years persona non grata; in 1986, this injustice was rectified when the University of Colombo awarded him a D.Lit.

Forced out of his editor's chair, his quality was recognised by Jim Rose, director of the International Press Institute, a body of editors dedicated to defending freedom of the press, and he and Rose undertook prodigious journeys throughout South-East Asia to foster IPI training programmes. Vittachi inspired many of today's editors with a vision of the journalist's role in a developing society, mixed with hard-headed practical advice on putting out newspapers. In parts of southern India the make-up sheet for planning the next day's newspaper is known as a "Vittachi"; until he arrived, pages were not designed by the editors, but thrown together by the printers. He was Asian director of the International Press Institute for five years from 1960 and was then a key player in forming the Press Foundation of

Asia, which did much to establish the principles of a free press in societies that had little experience of it.

Vittachi maintained his journalism throughout his life. While with the IPI, he was simultaneously a correspondent for *The Economist*, the BBC, and *The Sunday Times* of London, and a columnist for *Newsweek* (the first UN official to be such). He brilliantly documented the mass murders in Indonesia around the time of the overthrow of Sukarno, published as his fifth book in 1967. In 1973 he founded and became editor-in-chief of an English-language newspaper, *The Asian*, published from Hong Kong.

His spiritual life became increasingly important to him. He was a member of the spiritual brotherhood, Subud (founded in Java in 1947), and only a month ago, though seriously ill, travelled to Colombia with his wife, Sarojini, for a rapturous reception by a thousand fellow members. He was one of the founders of the Global Forum on Spiritual and Parliamentary Leaders on Human Survival that brought together religious leaders, scientists, legislators and journalists. He was as much at home in spiritual meetings, academic seminars, the villages of South Asia, and the mazes of the United Nations as he was in press rooms. His global vision and unaffected love of humanity made him at all levels a brilliant mobiliser for action on questions of poverty and the environment and especially for children. His voice will resonate beyond his death. His last book, *Between the Guns*, describing how Unicef arranged truces for children's welfare in the middle of civil conflicts, will be published posthumously.

Tarzie Vittachi leaves four sons and a daughter by three marriages.

A. J. WELLS

Arthur James Wells, OBE, General Editor of the *British National Bibliography*, 1949-75, died in Brighton on August 26 aged 81. He was born in Croydon on August 8, 1912.



A. J. WELLS designed and developed, in the *British National Bibliography* (BNB), the most towering contribution of our time to the bibliographic control of the massively increasing annual number of new publications. This increase, as the main component of the so-called "information explosion", is the dominant feature of 20th-century culture in this and many other countries. With BNB Wells laid the basis which enabled users of libraries, large and small, to gain access to these new publications.

Refining to their limits the standards and practices of conventional bibliography, librarianship and printing technology, twenty years and more before on-line computer databases were even thought of, he fashioned a uniquely elegant communication system of immense versatility and strength, giving him a claim as bibliographic engineer to rank in the field with Brunel and Telford in theirs.

BNB was set up to fulfil two long-felt needs: one, for a comprehensive and regularly published listing of all publications, trade and non-trade; the other, for a cost-saving centralised cataloguing service for libraries. There were repeated calls for the latter by a departmental committee and a royal commission in 1927 and 1930, but Lionel McColvin's 1942 report to the Library Association on the postwar development of the public libraries system was the first to propose that these two needs be met in a single published service, using the statutory input to the British Museum Library by publishers under the Copyright Deposit Laws as source materials for both purposes.

Wells returned from wartime military service to be deputy librarian at Acton, West London, championed McColvin's proposal and offered, in print, ideas on its implementation. In 1949 he was invited to put these into practice as General Editor of the newly-founded BNB.

Constrained by the need for compatibility with the imprecise standards used by most libraries for their own collections, he and his small group of colleagues set to work to resolve the many mutual conflicts in the twin functions that BNB was to serve. Above all they aimed to design a classificatory and indexing structure which would simultaneously identify the subjects of publications at a high level of specificity. Thus they would provide Dewey numbers for the books represented by the entries to be arranged on shelves in libraries, enabling cumulations of weekly listings to be made over periods ranging from a month to five years, and provide maximally useful collocations and consis-

tently accurate subject indexing at all stages. The concepts of "facet analysis" and "synthetic classification" were then reaching Britain from India through Bernard Palmer, outstanding librarian and friend, who as a serviceman stationed in Madras had absorbed them directly from the great S. R. Ranganathan. With Palmer, Wells later wrote the seminal *Fundamentals of Library Classification*. They were the inspirational source from which Wells and his colleagues found such boldly innovative solutions to all these problems that they not only provided a solid foundation for future development but, in the atmosphere of the time, greatly eased the profession. They established BNB as a kind of emblem for the young progressives seeking to make of libraries and librarianship motors of postwar social reconstruction and development.

The BNB service was embraced by its users with almost proprietorial enthusiasm and in 1967 research showed it to be an integral element in the management systems of almost all UK libraries. It was admired and imitated the world over. It advanced towards computerisation, with the development of the first MARC (Machine Readable Cataloguing) tapes; and in 1974, after much hard bargaining, Wells led the BNB and its staff into the newly-formed British Library, where they became the Bibliographic Services Division and he was briefly the division's first director-general. But he knew he would be out of his creative element in the civil-service ambience of the new institution, and he soon retired from the post and from librarianship altogether.

Twelve years later he was invited up from Brighton by a successor director-general to a celebratory exhibition on BNB at the British Library in London. He toured the stands of microform systems, magnetic tapes, on line terminals, personal computers and compact-disc drives which have become the manifold mechanisms for the delivery of world-wide user networks of the same BNB (though now generically called BNB/MARC) he had created nearly forty years before. He was clearly impressed, but "I honestly didn't expect it to last so long," was all he said.

AARON WILDAVSKY

Aaron Wildavsky, political scientist, died from lung cancer in Oakland, California, on September 4 aged 63. He was born in New York City on May 31, 1930.

AARON WILDAVSKY was under dean of the School of Public Policy in Berkeley, former president of the American Political Science Association, and for 30 years one of the most creative figures in American political studies. With little reverence he once said that he did so badly in high school that his parents' ambition for him was to be a lawyer, a job which would "combine a little collar occupation with a little income from people who don't know better than to let."

His first major interest in politics was in budgeting. The *Politics of Budgeting* (1964) brought new realism to the subject. Looking for clarity and system in the tangles of departmental budgets he showed how budgetary bargaining inside the Washington Bureau of the Budget. He continued to work the theory of budgeting: *Budgeting and Politics* (1974), written with Naomi Caid, *The Private Government of Public Money* (1981), with Hugh Heclo) about control of public expendi-

ture in Whitehall, and *The Comparative Theory of Budgetary Processes* (1975).

A budget is on the surface, beneath it lies political conflict and over it floats abstract academic theory. Wildavsky situated his budgetary studies within the theoretical field outlined by his teachers at Yale, particularly Robert Dahl who, in addressing Madison's problem of a non-tyrannical republic, challenged political theorists to come down to earth and study the social prerequisites of democracy. In distinguishing two kinds of budget, objecting to one ("programmatically budgeting") for being over-automatised and distant from reality, and advocating the other ("incremental budgeting"), Aaron Wildavsky accepted the challenge.

Wildavsky held that it was impossible to develop a budget from an intellectual base; to be workable it had to be founded on moral commitments and accepted institutions. When Jimmy Carter tried to introduce a "zero-based budget", and failed dismally, Wildavsky voted for Reagan. His own reflection on the Madisonian debates is expressed in the book title: *The Revolt against the Masses* (1971).

During the 1960s the self-defeatingly violent behaviour of campus radicals turned his attention to the political claims of the environmentalists. He

saw the movement as "a variety of elitist contempt for the mass of citizens rather than a manifestation of popular revolt against an unrepresentative establishment".

The literary model which made him shudder was the violent sectarian righteousness of the army of the Covenanters in Walter Scott's *Old Mortality*; the immediate historical model was obviously the fate of the Jews in this century. The demands for regulation of lifestyles, "political correctness" and all-round reduction of risks to health he saw as dangerously sectarian. Hence his interest in the sociology of religion and anthropology, and his theory of political cultures which provided four or five instead of just two kinds of decision-making. He used to say: "Cultural theory is the best game in town; it is a pity no one is playing it." However, his efforts to establish a data base from which the theory could be tested in surveys are finally succeeding.

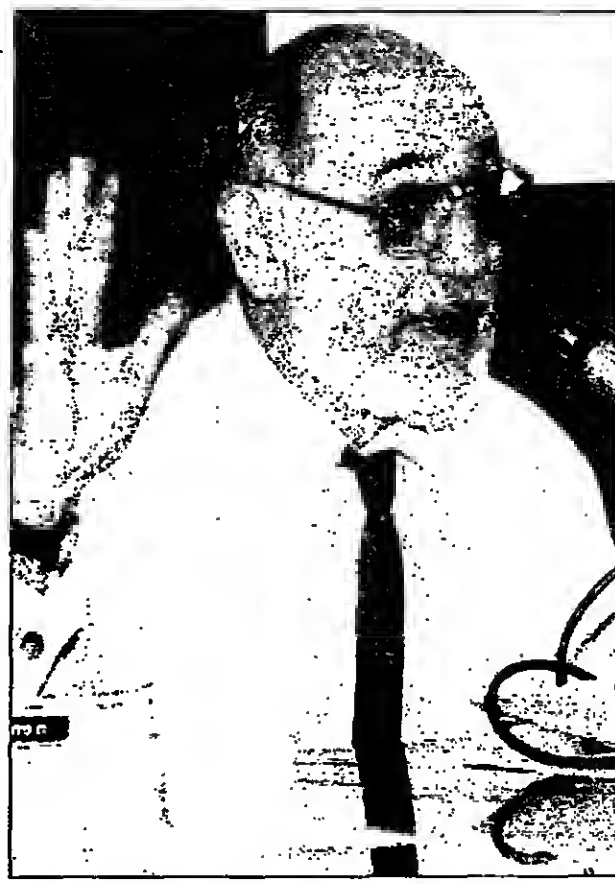
Aaron Wildavsky, attended Brooklyn College from where he won a Fulbright scholarship to Australia, and eventually took a PhD at Yale in political science. He taught for a few years at Oberlin College, Ohio, then in 1963 went to the University of California at Berkeley, where he remained except for a year which he spent in New York as pres-

ident of the Russell Sage Foundation.

Wildavsky worked with distinction in such diverse fields that it is hard to put them together; yet his background helps to show the unity of his thought. He was devoted to his father, a Russian Jewish émigré, whom he commemorated in a moving essay: "The Richest Boy in Poltava" (1975).

There were learned rabbis and holy men in his family history, but his parents struggled, to extreme poverty and managed without reading books. This gave his approach to politics its down-to-earth style, free of cant and obscurantism. Policy analysis should, he felt, be a craft, essentially accessible and useful to policy-makers and their critics. *Speaking Truth to Power* (1979) is the title that best expresses this vocation: truth is blunt, tends to be unpopular and is bound to be controversial; rather be rude and rough than not be understood.

He developed a personal style, Talmudic paradox spiced with Brooklyn streetwise quips and Jewish jokes. Wildavsky planned a trilogy of public policy studies of the Bible. *In The Nursing Father*, *Moses as a Political Leader* (1990), dedicated to the memory of his father, Moses comes out well; but Joseph comes out badly in *Assimilation versus Separation*, *Joseph the Public*



Administrator (1993). He had planned a political study of the Kings of Israel. He was trying to finish a book on rational choice, another on risk, and a funny-profound article on Freud's theory of joking, sprinkled with Jewish jokes. He said he wanted to leave his friends laughing. He was twice married and is survived by his widow Mary, and three sons and one daughter of his first marriage.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Advertisements in the Personal Column section, including:

- OVERSEAS TRAVEL**: CANADA, USA, SALES, AD, etc.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**: DIALYSIS AND TRANSPLANTATION, LEUKAEMIA, THE MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL.
- TRAILFINDERS**: LOW COST FLIGHTS WORLDWIDE.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**: ANIMALS IN NEED, CHURCH OF THE FUTURE.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**: YOUR WILL.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**: DON'T TAKE YOUR KIDNEYS TO HEAVEN.

KAREL KUCEK

Karel Kucek, OBE, deputy chairman of Lotus shoes, 1975-82, died on September 19 aged 76. He was born in Bohemia on August 17, 1917.

KAREL KUCEK was one of the grand old men of the British shoe industry, and was particularly associated with the history of one of its few quality branded names still flourishing today, Lotus Shoes.

Kucek was passionate about the need for product development and recognised the importance of strong customer relations before many in the business. He was also quick to respond to changing markets and was instrumental in developing the export business of Lotus Shoes, particularly in Russia, at a time when the British footwear industry was itself being threatened by cheap imports.

Kucek was brought up and educated in Czechoslovakia, serving his shoe-making

apprenticeship at the local Bata factory there. During the second world war he fought as a volunteer in the artillery of the Czech Free Forces attached to the British Army, and was awarded the Czech Valiant Cross.

Afterwards he transferred to Bata's American and London offices before joining Brevin Shoes as general manager of their two factories in Leicester. In 1958 he joined Lotus Shoes, initially based at their factories in Stafford and Northern Ireland.

Kucek was appointed to the main board of Lotus Shoes as sales director in 1966. He became group managing director in 1970 and was appointed OBE the following year for services to the footwear industry. After seven years as deputy chairman from 1975, Kucek retired to his home in the Cotswolds.

He is survived by his wife Mary, one son and three daughters.



ON THIS DAY

September 24 1937

SEVERE DRUGS

A Government report to the League of Nations on the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs during 1936 states that in addition to narcotic drugs is not prevalent in the United Kingdom. "The approximate number of addicts in the country known to the Central Office at the end of last year was 616, of whom 313 were men and 303 women. Of this total, approximately 137 were members of the medical profession, three were dentists, five were pharmacists, and two veterinary surgeons. The drugs involved were morphine and preparations, 543; heroin 61; cocaine, 52; and combined drugs, 30. The region covers Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands.

ON THIS DAY

September 24 1937

SEVERE DRUGS

"Addiction to narcotic drugs is not prevalent in the United Kingdom," stated this 1936 report. Nor was any evidence forthcoming then of any organised illicit traffic.

The only important case of illicit traffic which came to notice during the year was the seizure of 132 two-ounce tins of prepared opium (Lion and Globe brand) on board the M.V. Deacon on her arrival at London from Hong-kong via Singapore. A Chinese fireman admitted ownership and said that he received the opium from a friend at Hong-kong to convey to a person at Singapore but was unable to take the opium ashore owing to the vigilance of Customs officers there.

MOTORING

Looking for a new car? Kevin Eason reports on vehicles that might have travelled around the world, but are a real bargain

A better class of banger

The bang and plume of smoke from beneath the bonnet signalled the end of a long and expensive relationship.

Simon de Bruxelles and his wife had doted on their Mercedes coupe, a long, languorous limousine that waffled them along the motorway — until it decided to commit mechanical suicide.

It was not just the prospect of the expensive repairs that angered the couple, but the fact that they had recently spent £650 on a "routine" service.

The Mercedes was despatched to the second-hand car lot and Mr and Mrs de Bruxelles decided to become one of the nation's army of owners of battered, used cars — tatty bangers with more miles on the clock than the space shuttles.

For them, it was a Renault 5 which cost £180 — and gave 18 months of trouble-free motoring even though they started out with a car with 69,000 miles on the clock.

There are thousands of motorists for whom the annual pilgrimage to smart showrooms in middle-class suburbs would be a mystery. They do not fret over the policies of manufacturers towards European pricing on new cars, exchange rates or warranty schemes. By the time they write the cheque, the car has already been to hell and back and qualifies for the motor industry equivalent of a pension.

Buyers of bangers may look like mugs just waiting to spend their lives in roadside laybys waiting for the AA men. But, if they are happy to forgo the latest gadgets and mechanical facts, they can make financial gains that would turn other motorists green with envy.

Used cars with even 100,000 miles and more on the clock can be much cheaper to run than their younger and less travelled cousins. It used to be that cars with a mileage into six figures had all the second-hand charisma of a moth-eaten parachute. Now, they are much in demand, according to Fleet Management Services, a company which helps fleets buy and dispose of their company cars.

Michael Karwowski, the company's spokesman, says that there is a



Simon de Bruxelles with his son Laurence and his 1975 Vanden Plas 1300. With leather seats and walnut dashboard, it was a snip at £425

breed of car — the modern, company-owned fleet car — which is better made and better maintained than before. When those cars reach what most people would consider to be the end of their working life, there is still plenty of "go" left in them.

Modern cars last longer because they are more resistant to rust and have more durable parts than cars made even ten years ago.

"Cars usually reach 80,000 miles at their third birthday," Mr

Karwowski says. "Fleet operators getting rid of those cars not only have to give them an MOT, but usually new brakes, tyres, exhaust and a major service as well. This means that for the next 20,000 miles, they are virtually problem-free."

If the buyers' timing is right and their eyes are true, then they can pick up a tremendous bargain offering a couple of years of motoring for less than the price of a package holiday.

Mr de Bruxelles simply headed

for the classified advertisements and found his Renault. With service history and no rust. "The only problem was a terrific rattle from the exhaust," he says. "There were 69,000 miles on the clock, a handful of previous owners and only three weeks' MOT. But a drive around the block showed there was nothing wrong with the engine, just that deafening rattle where an exhaust bracket had broken loose."

The radio had long ago been stolen, so Mr de Bruxelles offered

the owner £150. They haggled and she threw in the baby seat — perfect for a young couple with new baby. "I drove home, noisy but happy," he says. "In 18 months, the Renault not only never broke down, it never failed to start, first turn of the key."

"We drove from London to Shropshire dozens of times, went on a motoring holiday in northern France, and took the baby to visit friends and relatives around the country. The car rolled a bit on corners, the heater wasn't great and

I never did replace the radio. But the total cost of 18 months' motoring was less than the cost of the final service for the Mercedes."

Recently, time and traffic finally caught up with the Renault. The bonnet catch came off in Mr de Bruxelles's hand and then the handbrake broke. Finally, a large white van took a short cut through the rear wing, leaving a hole big enough for Mr de Bruxelles to put his head through.

It was easier to dispose of the Renault than to repair it. A dealer

Used cars with 100,000 miles on the clock can be much cheaper to run than their younger and less travelled cousins

near his London home handed over £45 to take the car away.

"I thought I had done well," he says. "I told myself the car was only going to the scrap heap. A week later, there it was on his forecourt. Written in white paint on the windscreen it said: 'Lady owner, no rust. MOT, one year guarantee. £345.'"

"Two days later, it was sold. I don't begrudge him the profit. We both got excellent mileage out of that car."

The experience was enough to convince the De Bruxelles that a dalliance with another spanking new tonne of metal was probably not a good idea.

The new car at the family home is just as cheap and cheerful as the old Renault, although almost a move into the exclusive stratosphere of used car motoring. Now their car is an Austin Vanden Plas 1300 bought for a princely £425, practically a fortune in the world of Banger Motoring.

THE GOOD BUYS

THIS IS the best time to go for a banger. Auction houses say that prices have fallen by about £400 to £500. A huge number of models have come on to the used market since the August boom when showrooms were flooded with trade-ins for L-reg models.

Figures from the Independent Car Auctions in Bristol show that a 1990 G-reg Cavalier 1.6L with 90,000 miles on the clock is selling for £3,200 compared with the £3,600 it would have fetched in August. Vaughan Freeman writes.

A Rover 214GSI with 48,000 miles on the clock is selling for £4,250 compared with £4,800 in August. A 1990 H-reg Ford Sapphire 1.6LX with 88,000 miles is selling for £3,500 as against £3,900 in August. And a Peugeot 405 1.9 from 1990 with 87,000 miles up is selling for about £3,250 — £3,750 in August.

IN SPITE of the fall-back in prices, there are still plenty of buyers unwilling to part with big money for cars when they can find a bargain — particularly at running costs lower than those for new models.

Vauxhall Cavaliers, which have covered between 80,000 and 100,000 miles, cost on average just 1.07p per mile to run compared to 1.52p per mile for each of the first 80,000 miles.

With Rover, the average maintenance costs per mile over 80,000 miles for an Austin Montego stand at 1.48p compared to 2.3p per mile. Ford's workhorse Sierra cost 2.27p per mile up to 80,000 miles, but 2.2p per mile once the odometer has scrolled around the benchmark number.

Buyers of heavily used cars have little to fear. Cars are now more reliable even after high mileage use and often come with comforting warranties. Network Q, Vauxhall's second-hand service, sells used cars on a new car footing, offering customers a quibble-free money-back guarantee, 114-point check and 1,500-mile service.

The Zike may have been an object of laughter, but 40 a week are being sold

Small, quiet, but a mover

Critics rubbed their hands in glee when yet another bold new invention from Sir Clive Sinclair tried to have turned into a technology turkey, Kevin writes.

At footsore council rent collectors could yet be grateful if Clive for the Zike, the try-powered bicycle that seemed destined to follow CS electric car into the strait dustbin.

Local authority wants 500 as an environmentally friendly form of transport for workers. Staff will zip their local community to 14mph on the mass, which weigh half as much as a mountain bike but enough battery power for two hours.

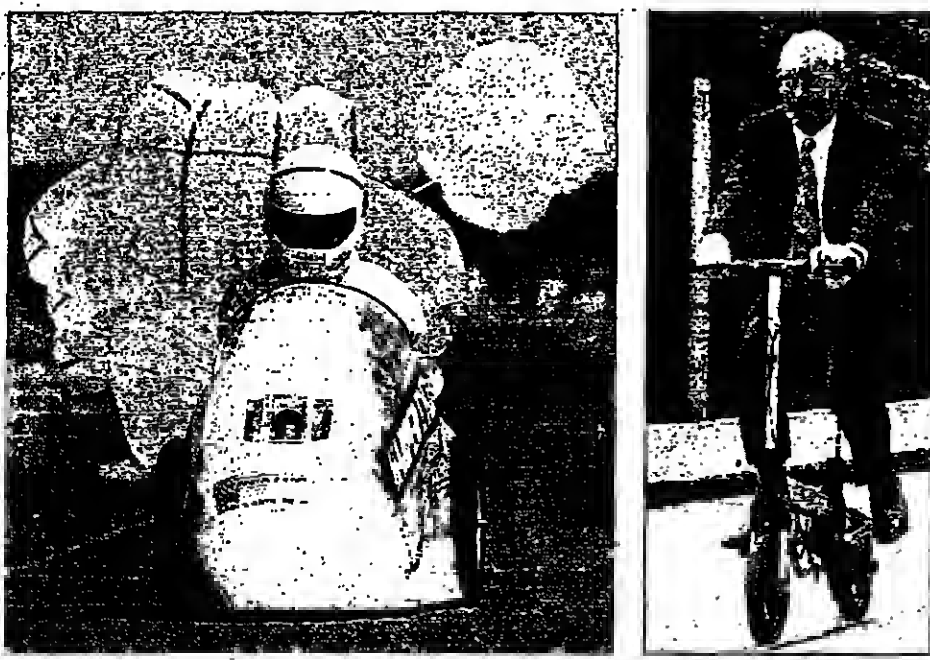
And Ray Harper, a and son partnership manufacture the Zike, say local authority prepared to about £250,000 on a order for Zikes did not to be identified — pre- because it has not workers yet.

the Harpers have faith little vehicle, which can cheap and friendly to environment. Even the family has had one on lam Harper says. "The such a good idea.

Unfortunately, it did not take off after Sir Clive launched it, but there must be a place for something which is so economical and which does not belch out fumes when people travel around town."

Although not on the grand scale as envisaged by Sir Clive, orders are coming in quickly enough for the Harpers to employ ten people at a small factory in Erit, Kent, making 40 Zikes a week. Orders have come in from places as diverse and far-flung as Singapore, China, the Seychelles, Greece and America, where Michigan wants Zikes as transport for some forestry workers.

However, landing an order with a British local authority could prove to be a coup. If its scheme is a success, it could do more to rehabilitate the Zike in



A CS record attempt — and Sir Clive Sinclair launching the environmentally-friendly Zike

the eyes of a sceptical public than almost anything else. "So many authorities are now turning to pedestrianised precincts and ways of cutting down pollution," Ray Harper says. "The Zike is the perfect answer — it is quiet, it does not give out fumes and it is very small."

At £499 each, Zikes cost only as much as an expensive pedal-cycle but cost about a penny a mile to run. The tiny nickel cadmium batteries weigh just 2lb and fit inside the rust-free alloy bar which supports the rider's seat.

The battery is powerful enough to propel the Zike up a 1:10 hill — but if it runs out of steam, the rider can use pedal power.

Those who scoffed at the Zike had a field day with Sir Clive's previous entry into the world of high-tech transport. The Zike seemed another batty idea after the CS turned £8 million worth of investment into a public joke.

High expectations turned to derision when the CS was launched in 1985, a tiny plastic single-seater that had to be pedalled to get up hills. Buzzing along next to a lorry on the road, it looked like a flea irritating a large cat.

However, the Harpers sold more than 600 CSs all over the world and estimate that collectors will now pay up to £4,000 for one — ten times the original price.

Like the CS, the Harpers may be proving that the Zike has a place on the roads. It was just Sir Clive's timing that was wrong.

JAGUAR has turned to one of Britain's most renowned hi-fi companies to build speakers for the XJS sports model. Goodmans Loudspeakers provides four or six 6in speakers for the coupe and convertibles.

Defender on sale in US THE TRUSTY Land Rover Defender 90 goes on sale for the first time in America on October 1 as an open-top rival for the popular Jeep — not with extras, but take-aways. Carpets are optional, while stereo speakers have been waterproofed.

Citroën's fuel for thought THE CHEAPEST car in Britain to run is the Citroën AX Debut, according to Auto Express magazine. It calculated that the car cost only 23p a mile to run, putting it in front of rivals such as the Renault Clio, Rover Metro and Ford Fiesta.

ROADWISE

New check-up for cars

A NEW vehicle inspection service has been launched to rival the AA and RAC. Called Auto Report, the business offers independent inspection covering 140 mechanical, electrical and structural parts, a document check on the service history and ownership of the vehicle and a three-month or 3,000-mile parts-only warranty up to £300. Further details from Auto Report on 0920 484708.

Alfa hold costs down

ALFA ROMEO, the Italian marque struggling to make its mark in the UK, has announced price increases averaging 0.8 per cent, substantially less than inflation. The range now starts with the 33 1.7i at £11,260 and is topped by the £28,400 164 Cloverleaf.

The Jaguar sound

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NEWS

Sydney beats odds to win Games

Sport scored a remarkable victory over politics when the millennium Olympic Games were awarded to Sydney against every expectation. Peking, the short-odds favourites, were beaten into second place with Manchester third.

As the president of the International Olympic Committee spoke the single word "Sydney", Australian officials at Monte Carlo leapt in the air and hugged each other while Chinese delegates smiled politely. Pages 1, 2, 18, 19

Yeltsin thwarts rivals

President Yeltsin moved to consolidate his upper hand in the struggle for power in Russia by calling a presidential election for next June, two years before his term of office formally expires, and by seizing the assets of the disbanded parliament. Pages 1, 15, 25

Major's move

John Major moved to appease the Tory right by making plain that he would not allow the European Community next month to patch up the discredited European exchange rate mechanism. Page 1

Short checked

Nigel Short played his best and most aggressive game so far in the World Chess Championship, but was eventually forced to accept a draw after a spirited final defence by Garry Kasparov. Pages 1, 8

Church exodus

The Pope's condemnation of contraception as "evil" will lead to "the defections of myriads of the 800 million faithful", leading members of the Roman Catholic Church warned. Page 2

Bleak outlook

The public has become more pessimistic about the outlook for the economy over the next year despite figures pointing to the beginnings of recovery. Page 2

Cancer hope

Scientists have isolated two genes, thought to play a role in breast cancer, that might help match treatments more effectively to patients. Page 7

Youth and TV

The image of children sitting glued to the television is demolished in the biggest survey of youth consumer behaviour and attitudes in Britain. Those surveyed read three to four non-school books. Page 5

Thinking through the pain barrier

The way we cope with pain may have more to do with our emotional response than with the pain itself, say researchers who have taken the first pictures of the brain in pain. A new imaging technique has shown that the response to pain may be more complex than has been thought. The findings also suggest that pain can be healed through meditation. Page 7

Rider dies

Zoe Nesbitt, 15, a talented teenage rider, died in a fall from her pony despite wearing a protective riding hat. Page 5

Police see red

Police superintendents condemned plans by Michael Howard to introduce tough new discipline measures and was encouraged to insist on their right to strike. Page 9

Black power

South Africa took an important step towards democracy when parliament passed legislation giving blacks their first taste of political power in April's first all-race elections. Page 13

France hopeful

France signalled that it was keen to defuse the row over farm trade with the US. Page 14

Knesset win

Yitzhak Rabin silenced his hard-line critics by winning comfortably the vote in parliament for his historic peace accord with the PLO. Page 14

Harsh sanctions

Students in Serbia have started to kill themselves because they cannot bear the harsh effects of Western sanctions. Page 15

Airliner down

A third Georgian airliner in three days was destroyed as government forces and Abkhazian rebels battled for control of Sukhumi. Page 15



Druids celebrating the autumn equinox on Primrose Hill in London yesterday afternoon. The gathering in the open marks their natural temple which has no walls. The autumn equinox marks a time when there is equal light and dark, forming a gateway into winter

BUSINESS

DTI report: Several directors of the collapsed London United Investments wrongly diverted insurance commissions worth £40 million into Liechtenstein and Swiss-based bank accounts, probably for their own financial gain. Page 25

Russia: The International Monetary Fund will continue to make loans to Russia, but in view of the current political crisis, any further money may not now be forthcoming until next year. Page 26

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 6.2 points to close at 3001.3. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 80.7 to 80.4 reflecting a fall to \$1.5050 but a slight rise from DM2.4748 to DM2.4757. Page 28

SPORTS

Football: Steve Bull, the former England forward, has been given a three-match ban by the Football Association for bringing the game into disrepute. Page 42

Yachting: In the build-up to the Whitbread Round the World Race, which starts tomorrow, Lawrie Smith, skipper of *Fortuna*, reports on the last-minute problems and hopes. Page 42

Motor racing: Damon Hill, the British driver who has an outside chance of taking the Formula One title, warned Frank Williams that he may disobey team orders in the Portuguese grand prix on Sunday if he can beat his Williams-Renault team-mate, Alain Prost. Page 46

Radical fugitive: After 23 years on the run, Katherine Power has taken herself off the FBI's most-wanted list by surrendering to her conscience and the police, writes Ben Macintyre. Page 16

D-Day aftermath: Ross Munro, a Canadian correspondent, gives his account of part of the aftermath of D-Day in the final extract from Russell Miller's story of the Normandy landings. Page 16

Tales of the City: When CBS looked at turning Armistead Maupin's books into film, they asked him to take out the gays. That, he said, was like Dickens's taking out the poor people. The Valerie Grove interview. Page 17

Mystery unravelled: Cleaning the Wilton Diptych — the great 14th-century panel painting in the National Gallery — has revealed some fascinating details and a remarkable new image of England as a sceptred isle. Page 39

Aids sequel: *The Destiny of Me*, the sequel to Larry Kramer's much acclaimed play about Aids victims, *The Normal Heart*, has received its British premiere at the Leicester Haymarket Theatre. Page 39

Beatles at a price: What can justify EMI's decision to release old Beatles songs at approximately £25 per album? Also in Rock on Friday: new records from Capercaille and Buffalo Tom. Page 41

THE TIMES TOMORROW

How the parties fare?

The Times MORI poll shows which party has the best policy on key issues of the day as public support for John Major shows no sign of recovering

Flexible feasts

Guest cook Hattie Ellis says that as a child, "greed and curiosity" led her to cooking. Now her ambition is to eat her way around the world

Elgar's Elgar

The recordings made by Sir Edward Elgar at Abbey Road studios in the last years of his life are a priceless guide to interpreting his music. Now they have been collected together and digitally remastered

STINGS

Four women reflect on the pleasures and hazards of revealing their gardening skills in a new series, *An Englishwoman's Garden* (BBC2, 8.30pm). Page 47

OPINION

A sporting decision

Australia's evolving sense of national identity and economic leadership in the southern hemisphere — closely linked to its republican aspirations — will be given a fillip by the award of the most prestigious sporting event in the world. All nations should look forward to a majestic Games. Page 19

Arranged marriages

To expect Kenneth Clarke to tie himself in advance to Michael Portillo would make the pair as ungainly as a team in a three-legged race. If the Tories want Mr Clarke, they will have to accept him for what he is. Page 19

Working to live

The fact that virtually all unpaid activity is regarded as "leisure" — and, by connotation, unserious — shows how much the idea of employment dominates life. Page 19

BERNARD LEVIN

A trivial fare-dodge is one thing: what about seeing a traveller having his pocket picked? Do you go up to the thief and confront him, or do you tap the robbed man on the shoulder, whisper the news, and point out the thief? Page 18

PHILIP HOWARD

I have just proved again that words are untranslatable by turning Lord North's schoolboy Latin verses into English for a new biography. History has written him down as a disastrous prime minister, but unlike most politicians, even in those polished days, he was an accomplished linguist. Page 18

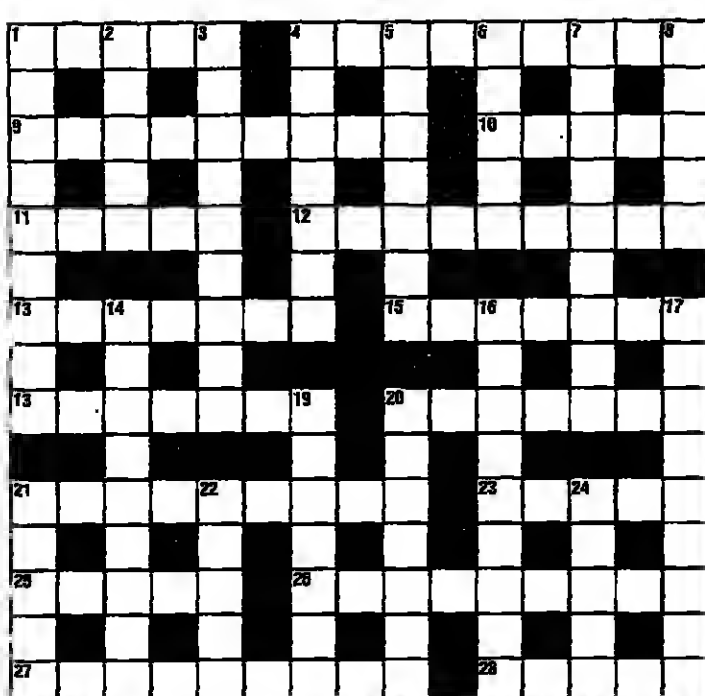
Retailers' and customers' attitudes to Sunday shopping

Page 19

Russia needs stable civil and political organisations. The old legislature was chaos in legislative form. The building of the new order will be a continuing project. It deserves the West's active support — *The Wall Street Journal*

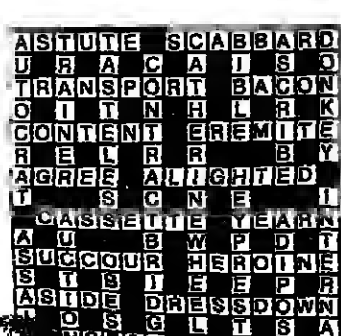
There is an evident danger in appearing to support Yeltsin's unconstitutional power grab in a country on the verge of chaos and with a fearful history of one-man rule — *The Washington Post*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,344



- ACROSS**
- 1 Give birth, with assistance (5).
 - 2 Run out of plump fish? Get producing (9).
 - 3 Shoe cast by champion (5-4).
 - 4 Put in the ground after start of cold weather (5).
 - 5 A foundation must be lower (5).
 - 6 Shoot-out in book is not unsavoury (9).
 - 7 Give respectability to Scottish entertainer not at first accepted (7).
 - 8 Flap on dress providing modest concealment (3-4).
 - 9 OUP collection (5-2).
 - 10 Maybe an inspector that calls? (7).
 - 11 Explain vote? (3,6).
- DOWN**
- 1 Merry-maker is a wife-beater (9).
 - 2 Girl for whom I care madly (5).
 - 3 Unreasonable, like *Animal Farm*? (3-6).
 - 4 Butter up, but not so much up (7).
 - 5 Get up and steal away (4,3).
 - 6 Aim to improve husband for woman (5).
 - 7 In the absence of a man, boy was brought up shy (9).
 - 8 Eat too much Cheddar? (5).
 - 9 Tidy, but no class is silent (9).
 - 10 Unnecessary former utility room (9).
 - 11 Department of State about to recognise portent (9).
 - 12 Supply evidence nothing's missing — a turn-up for the judge (7).
 - 13 Starts of sessions postponed: takes a turn outside for an hour (7).
 - 14 A birdie — beat that (5).
 - 15 One that's discreet about one's supposed right (5).
 - 16 Memorial tablet for the high-ranking? (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,343



Concise Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0851 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
East of London	702
South-East	703
West of London	704
North-East	705
North-West	706
Yorkshire	707
East of Yorkshire	708
West of Yorkshire	709
North of Yorkshire	710
South of Yorkshire	711
East Midlands	712
West Midlands	713
East of Midlands	714
West of Midlands	715
North of Midlands	716
South of Midlands	717
East of England	718
West of England	719
North of England	720
South of England	721
East of Scotland	722
West of Scotland	723
North of Scotland	724
South of Scotland	725
East of Ireland	726
West of Ireland	727
North of Ireland	728
South of Ireland	729

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0330 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within M1 & S. Cross)	732
M1/M25/M40/M4	733
M1/M25/M40/M4/M25	734
M25/M40/M4/M25/M4	735
M25/M40/M4/M25/M4/M25	736
National traffic and roadworks	737
National motorways	738
West Country	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-East England	742
North-West England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745
AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.	

WEATHER

Showers should move away from the South East by central and eastern parts dry and bright. Cloud and rain in the North and West. Showers may return to the South-East by evening. Rain will spread over Scotland from the west, while cloud and rain will reach Northern Ireland early. England and Wales will have mist and fog. Outlook: a band of cloud and rain spreading east on Saturday. Mostly dry and sunny on Sunday.

ABROAD

MOON: 1=thunder; 2=dew; 3=dog; 4=goat; 5=sun; 6=sheet; 7=cloud; 8=ice; 9=cloud; 10=ice																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
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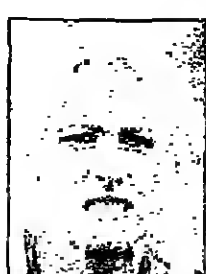
INFOTECH 32-38

Electronic trading, the big switch for business



ARTS 39-41

Richard Cork on an enigmatic medieval masterpiece



SPORT 42-48

Warring factions take the strain in Minehead

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 47

THE TIMES

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24 1993

2

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS
TODAY

FIREMAN'S LIFT



Fireman are a test case for public pay. Unions see it as a chance for an increase
Page 29

BAR PRESENCE

Guinness says world recession is making the drinks market much more competitive
Page 26

EXTRA INCOME



The Halifax building society is leading less but making more money from savers
Page 26

BAD FLIGHT

GPA, the aircraft leasing company, lost \$993 million in the year to end-March, against a \$249 million profit
Page 26

THE POUND

US \$ 1.5050 (+0.0145)
German mark 2.4757 (+0.0006)
Exchange rates: 08.41-0.93
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3001.3 (-6.2)
Dow Jones 3537.24 (-9.78)
Nikkei Ave. Closed

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 5 5/8%
US Federal Funds 3 1/8%
3-month Treas. Bils. 2 9/16%
Long Bond 6.05%

CURRENCIES

New York: London: £\$ 1.5050 £\$ 1.5050
\$ DM 1.6440 \$ DM 2.4742
\$ SWfr 1.4342 \$ SWfr 2.1537
\$ Fr 5.7253 \$ Fr 8.6078
\$ Yen 106.10 \$ Yen 106.10
\$ SDR 1.0728 \$ ECU 1.2910
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing (5)
AM 353.75 PM 357.00
Close 357.10-357.80
New York
Comex 354.75-355.25

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 141.3 August (1.7%)
Denotes midday trading price

LUI directors 'wrongly diverted £40m'

By SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE
CORRESPONDENT

SEVERAL directors of London United Investments, the collapsed property and investment group, wrongly diverted insurance commissions worth £40 million into Liechtenstein and Swiss-based bank accounts, probably for their own financial gain, a Department of Trade and Industry report says.

The funds were diverted over a number of years by LUI directors, Charles Driver, Henry Weavers and Peter Wilson, accompanied in limited instances by Stanley Mayhew, a director and principal underwriter of CR Driver, an insurance company. DIT inspectors managed to trace the commissions to Liechtenstein and Swiss bank accounts set up by Graham Smith, a chartered accountant. According to Mr Mayhew, the arrangement was designed to evade tax.

The DIT's findings, contained in a 316-page document by Angus Gilroy and William Gage QC, are now in the hands of the Serious Fraud Office, which is conducting its own investigation, the Chartered Institute of England and Wales, Lloyd's of London and LUI's liquidators. However, these bodies when considering taking any further action will have to consider the individuals' circumstances. Mr Weavers died in April. Mr Driver is ill and living abroad. Mr Mayhew is 65 and lives in Canada and Mr Smith lives in

The report from DIT inspectors, who traced commissions to Liechtenstein and Swiss bank accounts, has been passed to the SFO.

Liechtenstein. Only Mr Wilson lives in the UK.

The DIT is considering disqualifying certain LUI directors and said it will shortly take appropriate action against any individuals active in the insurance sector and would ban others from taking up senior insurance positions.

Mr Smith was banned from practising as a chartered accountant by the English Institute when LUI collapsed in 1990. The DIT inspectors found that the funds were transferred to companies Mr Smith owned, controlled or was concerned with. The inspectors concluded the Smith companies were not genuine insurance or reinsurance brokers. Mr Smith, who gave the impression of carrying out some of the functions of a broker, "in reality was not acting as a genuine insurance or reinsurance broker". In the absence of co-operation from Mr Smith or his wife, the inspectors concluded that "both of them were knowingly parties to the wrongful diversion of funds from CR Driver, the LUI group and the Weavers stamp companies. The overwhelming probability is that they derived some financial benefit from those funds."

Evidence also suggests that Mr Driver, Mr Weavers and

Mr Wilson intended to, and probably did, benefit from the diversion of funds. In the case of Mr Driver, who for most of the period 1970 to 1990 was a senior director of CR Driver, one of the companies from which funds were diverted, the report states he bears a heavy responsibility for what occurred. "We are quite satisfied that he knew what was happening and gave his approval. We are equally satisfied that, if he had chosen to do so, he could have stopped these activities at any time," the inspectors concluded.

Part of the responsibility also falls on Mr Weavers, who, the report concludes, approved of what was being done with the Smith companies up until his retirement in 1985. Mr Wilson was found to be "a willing accomplice of Mr Driver and Mr Weavers from 1976 onwards and responsible for the wrongful diversion of funds from the LUI group and the Weavers stamp companies." Since 1978, Mr Wilson was believed to have been the pivot or link between Mr Smith and the Smith companies and the others. Mr Mayhew was found to be partly responsible for starting the process of using the Smith companies, but his involvement was mostly confined to the CR Driver account.

Glaxo to pay former chief £4m in record package

By GEORGE SIVELL

ERNEST Mario, 54, who resigned as chief executive of Glaxo in March, stands to receive almost £4 million from the pharmaceutical company over the next three years. It is thought to be the biggest compensation package received by a director of a British company.

Sir Paul Girolami, Glaxo chairman, said at the time that Mr Mario had resigned from his post "because we had a different view of things". In particular, it is believed that Mr Mario wanted to take Glaxo, via a big acquisition, into more consumer-oriented over-the-counter markets.

According to Glaxo's annual report, published yesterday, Mr Mario will receive his annual salary of £900,000 in June each year for the next three years. He joined Glaxo's American subsidiary in Sep-



Mario: difference of opinion

tember 1986 from the Squibb Corporation and had an American-style rolling three-year contract that entitled him to three years' pay on resignation. To receive the money, however, he must not work for a rival company.

Mr Mario also remains entitled to performance-related

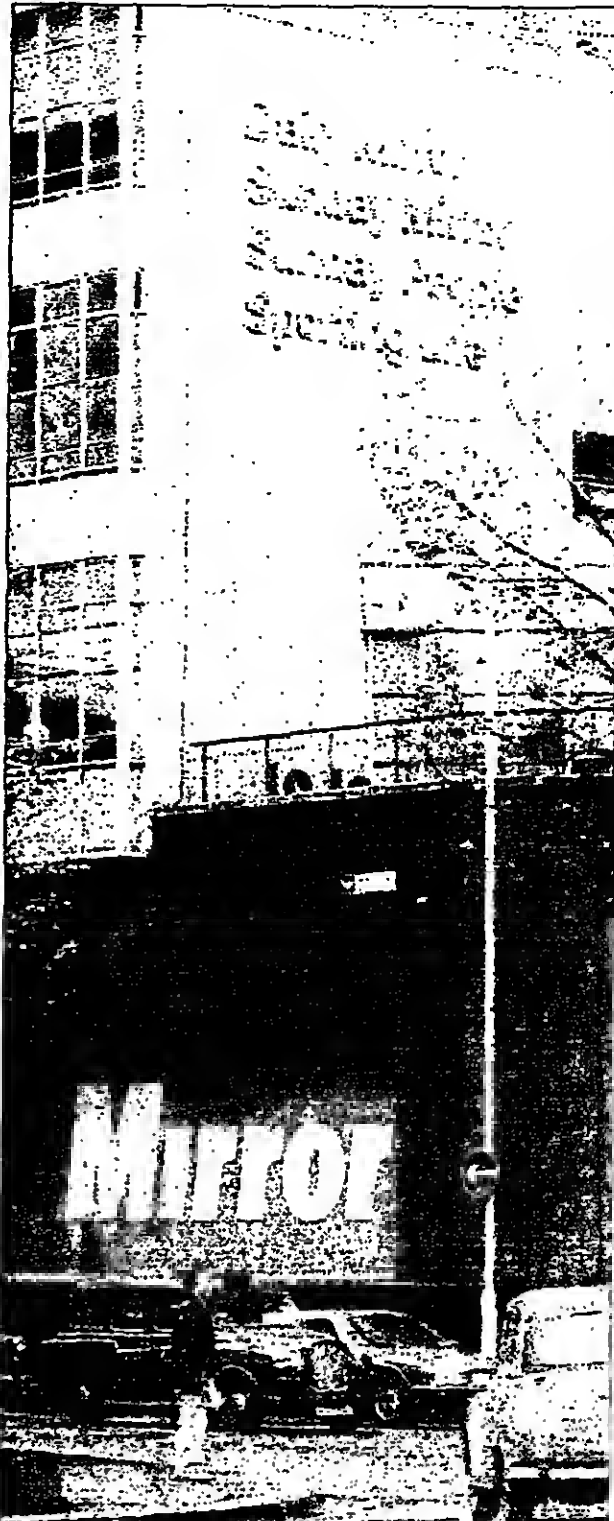
pay, clocked up during his time at Glaxo. The terms of Glaxo's performance scheme are complex, but if the company's earnings per share outperform rivals such as Wellcome, Upjohn and Merck, he will receive about £1 million over the next three years.

Mr Mario also keeps his options over 526,136 shares. The vast majority of these are worthless at the moment because they were granted at prices between 64p and 83p, more than yesterday's price of 64p (up 1p).

Glaxo emphasised yesterday that Mr Mario's package had been approved by the company's remuneration committee, which is chaired by Sir John Cuckney, and is made up of all the company's non-executive directors including Lord Howe of Aberavon, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer.

MGN stake to go on offer

By MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR



MIRROR Group Newspapers' extraordinary general meeting yesterday — which called for shareholders to approve the settlement of "substantially all" the claims against the company by the late Robert Maxwell's web of private companies — has duly paved the way for the long awaited placing of a 54.8 per cent block of the group's equity.

John Talbot, of Arthur Andersen, the accountant, and joint administrator of the Maxwell private empire, confirmed a "book-building" exercise will start on Monday for an international offering (excluding the US) to financial institutions.

Mr Talbot declared: "I am encouraged by the UK and overseas response to MGN's interim results and to last week's announcement that I was planning an offering of up to all of the MGN shareholding that I control." He added: "I am confident that an international offering is the most efficient method of selling the MGN shares for the benefit of creditors."

On the London Stock Exchange, MGN's share price added 1p to close at 178p — capitalising the company at £713 million.

N M Rothschild, the merchant bank, and Cazenove, the stockbroker, are joint lead managers, with S G Warburg, NatWest Securities and James Capel acting as co-lead managers.

News came yesterday of the injection of even more financial muscle with the appointment of Nomura International, Hoare Govett Securities, Paribas Capital Markets and Swiss Bank Corporation as co-managers.

More than one fund manager privately expressed surprise yesterday at the array of names that have been called upon to facilitate the £360 million plus sale.

Cynics take the view that, in the wake of MGN's mid-year results last week, which showed a pre-tax profit of £59.9 million, the likes of Rothschild, S G Warburg and Cazenove would have experienced relatively little difficulty in finessing a placing of this

scale when the share price rose to a peak 186p.

The NatWest and the Midland (along with Lloyds and Goldman Sachs) have loans of £300 million secured on the administrator's 54.8 per cent stake, and the appearance of NatWest Securities and James Capel, Midland's associate, as co-lead managers (despite their undoubted expertise) has led to speculation, albeit unconfirmed, that certain banks may have pressed for indirect participation in the sale.

From next Monday, financial institutions will be invited by the managers to submit bids at specific prices, or the price, which will eventually be determined as the offer price. The book-building exercise will end "on or before" next Friday when the offer price will be decided as will the allocations to investors.

Due to historic caution in respect of the "Max factor", City institutions are not major holders of MGN shares, originally floated in May 1991 at 125p. Snap market reaction yesterday was that the lead managers will be disappointed if they do not achieve an offer price of close to 170p — a figure that would raise £373 million.

A 36-page "selling memorandum", detailing the offering of 219,683,000 25p ordinary shares, is currently being distributed to several thousand international institutions, although a significantly lower number are actually expected to take up stock. US institutions are excluded for regulatory reasons but the view yesterday was that the book-building exercise should close well before Friday. As one analyst put it: "If it takes until Friday it will mean the going has proved tough."

Kleinwort Benson Securities rowed in with a "buy" recommendation yesterday, in their words: "The placing is the last major hurdle before the shares finally lose their pole status." The conclusion is that if the stock is placed at around 160p "the shares are a buy up to 195p".

Yesterday's EGM, held at the City's Chiswell Street Brewery, saw the resolution in respect of the "settlement agreement" passed by a substantial majority.



Mirror men: David Montgomery, left, MGN chief executive, and Charles Wilson, managing director

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Threadneedle Street comes to the market

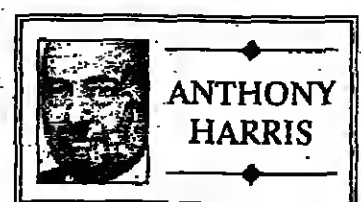
Some of my best friends in the investment community, usually decisive men, are dithering over the government's new 6 1/2 per cent stock maturing in 2004, which will be auctioned next week. Of course they are, you may say — there is already a grey market, and the grey price reflects the market consensus. The point is that it is now equivalent to 59 1/2 pence per £100, having hardened in line with the gilt market. This means that the bank of England got the market virtually dead right when it set the terms. This is an auction, so it didn't need to get it right, but it did.

Getting the market right, you may think, is what officials are generously paid to do; so it is a somewhat double-edged compliment when I greet this success as a cause for celebration. Memory paints a very different picture. Among his highlights are the issue of 16 per cent 20-year stock in 1980, which provoked the formerly official-minded Finan-

cial Times to near apoplexy on behalf of taxpayers. Then there was the mess made of the earliest issues of indexed stock, too greedy instead of too generous. This stock pioneer investors with heavy losses, and nearly strangled this wonderfully useful instrument at birth.

The Bank did, it is true, resist the blandishments of the still greedier Treasury, which dreamed of floating the issue at a price that would have guaranteed investors a real loss, on the grounds that a known limited loss would be preferable to the risk of being wiped out by inflation. After that experiment, the authorities reverted to their usual practice of choosing maturities to suit the life insurance actuaries, and pitching yields to guarantee a quick take-up of tap stocks. Result: an easy life for the government broker, at the expense of taxpayers.

In the bad old days, the Bank was quite happy to damn the expense; it was seen more as a fine, a punish-



ANTHONY HARRIS

ment imposed by the market on the government for reckless borrowing. The gilt market had the dual function of funding the government and controlling the money supply as then defined: this meant that the stock had to be sold. In short, the Bank was running a buyer's market, and the Treasury paid the price. That 16 per cent stock was probably the watershed. Indexed borrowing, which meant that the government had an escape route, followed not long afterwards, and long yields started their downward march with an exhilarating rush.

However, the Bank went on catering to the market's supposed

maturity preferences, which meant long commitments to high debt service costs that quickly came to be seen as excessive. The cost to taxpayers was, happily, limited by the disappearing borrowing requirement: now borrowing has come back on a huge scale and the cost is again important. The real significance of the new stock is the maturity: for the first time, the Bank has a declared policy of borrowing relatively short, to limit the government's forward commitment.

That is still a judgment that could prove expensive if inflation is raging again a decade from now, but the fact that the judgment is being made is itself something to celebrate. New-style economy funding is an effort to cut your future tax bill. It is a cautious one compared with the US Treasury, which has been keeping maturities really short; but if current American inflation forecasts are

right, the US strategy is simply a plot to give the banks easy profits — really a variant on under-funding. It also provides short-term window-dressing for the Federal accounts, which will look much worse when the debt has to be refinanced. The market dithering here suggests that the Bank's effort is, by contrast, decently cautious, and judicious too. One thing, though, is still missing: a bigger stress on index-linked funding. The relatively niggardly amount of stock issued reflects the Bank's persistently gloomy inflation expectations, only recently abandoned; it has probably regarded the heavy conventional funding it has achieved as a bargain in real terms. However, that is not a judgment it need make: indexed are designed for inflation-warriors, yet this market is still so thin that it carries an illiquidity premium. When the Bank shows itself ready to let investors back their own judgments, it will truly be practising market economics.

Ryan moves aside as GPA reveals losses totalling \$993m



By PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

GPA, the troubled Irish aircraft leasing company, collapsed into the red in the year to end-March, with net losses of \$993 million against a \$249 million profit. The loss is after exceptional charges and restructuring provisions of \$1.06 billion.

GPA revealed the extent of the damage yesterday as it announced it had reached conditional agreements on a \$1.24 billion restructuring deal with GE Capital, the finance arm of General Electric of the US.

To reach the GE Capital deal, GPA had first to persuade Boeing, Airbus, and other aircraft makers to relax purchase agreements. Its order book for delivery after next

January has been cut from 242 planes costing \$11.3 billion, to 57 for \$3.6 billion.

As part of the deal, Tony Ryan, GPA's founder and chairman, will move to a new role in a new company managing GPA's fleet. No decision has been taken whether Mr Ryan, whose salary is £1,300,000 (£283,000) and whose contract runs until 1996, will be paid compensation.

The leasing group will survive if shareholders approve the complex rescue at an extraordinary general meeting on October 18. GPA's fortunes have done a complete about turn since last summer when it was planning a big stock market flotation.

The company and some of its subsidiaries are in litigation with McDonnell Douglas arising out of aircraft purchase agreements

worth \$560 million. A trial is not expected before the end of next year. Although GPA is fighting the action, it has made a provision of \$144 million in relation to the action, but said it does not expect it to succeed.

As part of the rescue, GE Capital will buy 44 aircraft for \$5 per cent of their book value, an amount of \$1.24 billion, raising gross liquidity of \$465 million for GPA after repayment of debt, which will fall to a net \$331 million in the medium term. The remaining 15 per cent will be counted as an investment by GPA. In addition, if GE Capital exercised its option to subscribe for new GPA shares in full and if only a minimum of \$129 million were raised in new capital offers, GE Capital would acquire 67 per cent of GPA.

If GE Capital decides to exercise its

option, exercisable up to end-March 1998, in full, it then has the right in the next three years to exercise a call option over all GPA shares then held. This call option may be exercised at a fair market value, subject to an unspecified floor price. If it does so, GE Capital will also offer to buy all existing ordinary shares on the same terms. This will be the first opportunity for shareholders to recoup part of their investment.

As a result of the \$1.06 billion provisions and charges, the loss attributable to shareholders is \$993 million which reduces net book worth from \$1.23 billion to \$234 million. Of the restructuring charges and exceptional losses, \$737 million was for restructuring, including \$462 million for the restructuring of the aircraft order book

including the McDonnell Douglas provision. There is also a \$324 million exceptional charge relating to bad debts and provisions against lessees' failure to meet maintenance obligations. This also includes \$128 million of extra write-downs on the values of some aircraft in its owned fleet. GPA said this cut amounted to 2 per cent of the book value of the entire fleet.

GPA has also reached a deal with its 138 banks including deferral for up to three years of \$750 million of loan repayments and provision of a further \$150 million. The group has total debts of \$5.8 billion. It will also raise \$150 million by issuing convertible and non-convertible notes to existing shareholders. It plans two note issues, for \$129 million and for \$21 million.

Export orders hit six-month low, say manufacturers

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

MANUFACTURING companies' export orders have fallen to their lowest for six months, according to the Confederation of British Industry, which gave warning that the weakness of markets in Europe looked likely to hold back recovery in the UK.

The CBI figures, published today, raise questions about the continued growth in exports recorded in the government's latest GDP figures, published this week, which suggested a steady increase in exports as a principal reason behind better-than-expected economic growth.

Independent economists stressed that the government's three-month-old picture of the economy did not necessarily square with the position now, and the findings of the latest monthly industrial trends survey from the CBI support that.

The CBI's trends survey for September, covering almost 1,500 companies responsible for about half the UK's manufactured exports, shows that export demand has weakened again since August, with 37 per cent of companies sur-

Weak European markets are taking their toll of British export orders, which are lower than earlier in the year. Recession in Europe is becoming a cause for concern

veyed reporting export orders below normal, while only 16 per cent say they are better than usual. The resulting balance — those above normal set against those below — of minus 21 per cent is the lowest since April, and is markedly worse than the minus 5 and minus 10 per cent balances seen in May and June.

CBI analysts said that weak European markets were taking their toll on UK export orders. Sir David Lees, chairman of the CBI's economic affairs committee, said that the recession in Europe was a major cause for concern, adding: "This weakness of our major overseas market is likely to hold back recovery."

Worse export orders have pushed down manufacturing companies' total orders, the CBI survey shows, with a balance of 21 per cent of companies registering total orders as below their normal level. Companies expect produc-

tion to go on rising for the rest of the year, however, despite falling orders. For the ninth successive month, companies believe that the volume of manufacturing output will rise over the next four months. At a positive balance of 17 per cent of companies forecasting an increase in production, optimism about output is at its second highest for four years.

Destocking is continuing, however, with a balance of only 9 per cent of companies now feeling their stock levels are adequate — the least excessive stock level recorded by the CBI since June 1990.

The CBI says 10 per cent of companies believe they will be able to put up their prices for domestic orders over the next four months, while 11 per cent say prices will have to be lower. With 79 per cent seeing no change, the balance of 1 per cent expecting a price decrease suggests broadly flat price levels.



Michael Peagram, who turned a loss-maker into a profitable management buyout, has been named Britain's top entrepreneur. Dr Peagram, who joined Holiday Chemical in 1985, beat five finalists to win Venture of the Year.

Appleyard calls for cash as profits leap

APPLEYARD Group, the multi-franchise motor dealer, accompanied a healthy jump in first-half profits with a £16.4 million cash call to help finance expansion. The proceeds of the three-for-ten rights issue, at 120p a share, will be used to reduce borrowings and to make "selective acquisitions".

Appleyard reported a jump in pre-tax profits to £2.61 million (£263,000) in the six months to end-June. Turnover advanced to £177 million (£158 million). Earnings stood at 3.9p (0.9p loss) a share. The interim dividend is maintained at 2.6p, and the company intends to propose an unchanged final dividend of 2.6p, giving a total of 5.2p for the year. Mike Williamson, chairman, said: "Overall, the profitability of new and used cars for the key trading month of August was substantially ahead of the similar period last year. The aftermarket remains firm. Our associated contract hire and leasing company has further benefited from strengthening residual profits, while our commercial vehicle division continues to operate significantly ahead of budgeted levels of profitability." Appleyard shares eased 2p to 148p.

EC backs works councils

THE Belgian presidency of the European Community yesterday vowed to push ahead with controversial rules making "works councils" mandatory for multinational companies. Miet Smet, Belgium's labour and sex equality minister, told her EC colleagues at an informal meeting in Brussels that there could be no turning back on the drive to increase workers' rights in the EC. She said proposals to protect young workers should also be put in place this year.

Pound and mark slip

STERLING dipped further on foreign exchanges on the coat-tails of the mark, which continued to weaken against the dollar and the yen because of fears about developments in Russia. The Bundesbank decided, as expected, not to change its key interest rates, but this had little effect on the steady flight from European currencies. The Bank of England's sterling index dipped from 80.7 to 80.4, mainly because of a fall of nearly 1.5 cents in the dollar rate to \$1.5050 in London.

Greenalls golf plan

GREENALLS, the pubs group, plans to spend £6 million on an additional golf course and a golf academy at the Belfry in north Warwickshire, where the Ryder Cup match starts today. The new course will open in 1996, if planning permission is granted. Greenalls says trading at Devenish, the chain acquired in July, has been "well up to expectations" and the Cornish estate has had a better summer than last year. No further redundancies are expected.

Joint venture for WMI

THE Hong Kong government has signed a landfill project worth HK\$3.5 billion (£299 million) with a British-led joint venture to provide long-term solid-waste disposal capacity. The contract was signed by the Hong Kong environmental protection department and Green Valley Landfill, a joint venture between Waste Management International, of London, Citic Pacific Ltd, of China, and Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd.

Ricardo improves

RICARDO, the engineering design group, advanced to £2.68 million (£204 million) in the year to end-June, despite tough trading conditions. Profits before exceptional gains from continuing operations advanced 78 per cent to £4.1 million, while total turnover moved ahead to £65.6 million (£57.6 million). Earnings is 15 pence (12 pence) and earnings rise to 4.2p (3.6p) a share. The final dividend is maintained at 3.8p, giving an unchanged total of 5.7p. Ricardo shares eased 4p to 155p.

Power plant approved

CONSENT for construction of a new gas-fired power station at Didcot, Oxfordshire, has been granted to National Power by Tim Eggar, the energy minister, after a public enquiry. National Power said consent for the 1,500 megawatt combined cycle plant, adjacent to the existing coal-fired power station, would "enable the company to decide on the location and timing of future developments". It already has consent for a similar plant at Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire.

Antofagasta advances

ANTOFAGASTA Holdings, whose interests in Chile embrace copper mining, banking, rail transport and water supply, said pre-tax profits advanced to £20.8 million (£8.8 million) after including an exceptional £8.2 million profit from the merger of Banco O'Higgins and Centro Hispano Banco. The group said that second-half results would be affected by current low metal prices. The interim dividend is held at 6p a share, from net earnings of 34.4p (22.1p) a share.

Halifax jumps by 29% despite fall in lending

By SARA MCCONNELL

THE Halifax, the largest building society, yesterday announced a 29 per cent rise in pre-tax profit, to £411 million, for its first half, to July, in spite of falls in lending volumes and in net retail receipts against the same period last year.

The Halifax has continued to widen margins between rates paid to savers and rates charged to borrowers. It also increased turnover from commissions and fees from sales of properties and insurance. The net margin between savers' and borrowers' rates widened from 2.04 per cent, last year to 2.32 per cent.

The society's share of new mortgage business has fallen to 15 per cent from 19 per cent. Gross mortgage lending was £3.8 billion, with net lending at £1.16 billion in the first half.



Blackburn: optimism

In 1992's first half, gross lending was £4.5 billion and net lending £2.1 billion. Mike Blackburn, Halifax chief executive, said that the Abbey National, the second-largest lender, had "certainly" overtaken the Halifax with 23 per cent of new lending in the first half, mainly by concentrating on fixed-rate loans. However, he said: "We are not disappointed with our lending. We have been very competitive with our packages."

The Halifax is still the biggest lender, when existing mortgages are included, with 18 per cent of the market, and is, Mr Blackburn said, "quietly optimistic" about the housing market. "The haemorrhaging has stopped, but it is still extremely anaemic," he said.

Net retail deposits were £825 million, against £1.2 billion in 1992's first half. All societies are facing intense competition from National Savings and equity markets.

Mortgages 12 or more months in arrears fell from 23,600 to 21,100, with total arrears £235 million, down from £300 million.

Pre-tax profit for the Britannia building society rose by 70 per cent, to £28.5 million, for the half-year to end-June. The Britannia widened margins, with a 22 per cent rise in interest receivable, to £76.1 million, against £62.5 million. Income from other sources rose by 16 per cent, to £24.1 million. Gross lending rose 13 per cent.

IMF may delay loans to Russia

FROM JANET BUSH
IN WASHINGTON

THE International Monetary Fund will continue to make loans to Russia contingent on clear progress in implementing market reforms and, given the current political crisis, any further money may not now be forthcoming until next year.

Michel Camdessus, managing director of the IMF, said yesterday that if political leaders from the Group of Seven industrialised nations chose to go ahead with financial contributions to support Boris Yeltsin's reform programme and indeed his chances of staying in power, he would not object. But what mattered for the IMF was the "implementation of the adjustment and reform programme".

Mr Camdessus suggested, at the start of the IMF and World Bank meetings here, that the next reasonable date to consider

the disbursement of further loans to Russia would be the beginning of next year. He hinted that, at that stage, the IMF could consider a second disbursement under the Fund's new systemic transformation facility, set up to help those countries switching from centrally planned to market economies. He also suggested the possibility of a more comprehensive programme of financial support, including a stand-by facility.

Mr Camdessus acknowledged that political instability in Russia had already contributed to a slow down in the Fund's financial support and strongly suggested that Mr Yeltsin's current difficulties would not change its position of making funds available only when progress on market reforms was palpable.

At stake is the \$1.5 billion second tranche of an IMF loan, which now looks as if it will not be disbursed until at least

next year. This is part of the \$44 billion package announced at the US/Russia summit in Vancouver last year and approved by the G7 in Tokyo in July. It is unclear how the G7 nations will react to Mr Yeltsin's current difficulties but Mr Camdessus noted that they had a broader political agenda than the IMF.

Another major question which has to be addressed is the October 1 deadline for Russia to reschedule its debt with the Paris Club of creditor nations, which hinges on agreement between the IMF and Russia on overall economic reform.

Mr Camdessus said yesterday that the political crisis in Russia did not mean that the IMF was adopting a "wait and see" approach but that the Fund would work even more closely with the Russian authorities.

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Guinness drops to £320m



Anthony Greener, under the eye of Arthur Guinness

By SARAH BAGNALL

SHARES in Guinness, the drinks company, slipped 33p to 426p on worse than forecast interim profits of £320 million, unexpected pension costs and a warning to shareholders that an overall recovery in its markets remains elusive.

Anthony Greener, chairman, said: "The world is suffering a long and difficult period of recession and the conditions we are experiencing this year are less favourable than we previously expected. We have a much more competitive market place, with price an increasingly important issue."

As a result, Guinness does not expect full-year profits, before exceptional items, to exceed last year's. And if current conditions persist, next year's profits growth is likely to be "modest".

The pre-tax profit for the half year to end-June was 9 per cent down on last year's £333 million. Full-year figures, subject to actuarial advice, are expected to be depressed by £30 million, given earlier than expected resumption of pension contributions.

The interim dividend rises 8 per cent to 3.62p, reflecting growth in free cash flow, the

■ Guinness profits will fall this year because the drinks market is much more competitive than expected and price is becoming increasingly important

company's financial strength and the management's confidence in the long-term future, Mr Greener said.

Guinness also announced it is taking a 51 per cent to 55 per cent stake in Desnoes & Geddes, Jamaica's sole brewer, which produces Red Stripe lager and Dragon stout. The stake, which represents another step in Guinness's strategy of building up its worldwide stout brand, will cost between US\$62 million and US\$67 million.

In the year to end-September 1992, D&G made a pre-tax profit of \$347 million (£10.5 million), compared to \$126 million in 1991. The company had net cash balances of \$368 million, against \$384 million last year.

A breakdown of Guinness's figures reveals a fall in profits from United Distillers, in spite of a 2 per cent increase in sales. Margins came under pressure, falling from 31 per cent to 25 per cent, reflecting sterling's devaluation, a shift

towards greater sales of standard lower price brands and pressure on prices.

The brewing operations suffered from tough market conditions in several of its key areas, including Malaysia, UK and Spain. Pre-tax profits from Cruzcampo, the Spanish operation, fell from £22 million to £9 million. Mr Greener said that in the short-term the company's main markets offered limited growth prospects. The drinks company's share of LVMH's profits fell 15 per cent to £34 million.

Mr Greener said: "Despite the current economic circumstances, Guinness is doing pretty well. We are very positive about the fundamentals of the business." In response to the competitive pressures, the company is cutting costs by £20 million a year and using the proceeds to step up investment. "The key message is that Guinness is in good shape," he added.

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Levy cuts Anglia TV interims

By PHILIP PANGALOS

THE £17.8 million annual payment to the Exchequer for Anglia Television Group to keep its broadcasting franchise took its toll on first-half profits, but the broadcaster is confident about prospects.

Anglia paid £12.2 million to the Treasury in the first half, against a levy of £132,000 last time, as what Sir Peter Gibbins, chairman, called "a full but necessary price".

As a result, pre-tax profits for the period dimmed to £2.1 million, against £5.2 million.

Anglia believes that Channel 3 advertising revenue grew by 7 per cent in the half year and that its share of the Channel 3 cake has grown by about 0.3 per cent, to more than 7 per cent of the total. "The first six months were very satisfactory," Sir Peter said.

Anglia said third-quarter advertising was developing in line with the first half.

Sir Peter said: "Taking all factors into account... we expect the profit for the first full year of our new licence to be very satisfactory."

Earnings fell to 3.38p (7.76p) a share. The interim dividend stays at 2.86p. Anglia will consider raising the final payout.

United puts up 'for sale' sign on Extel Financial

By PATRICIA TEHAN

UNITED Newspapers has put a "for sale" sign over Extel Financial, its company and securities information and news service. The sale is thought likely to raise up to £60 million. The news sent its shares up 7p to 556p.

United acquired Extel Financial as part of Extel Group in June 1987 for £28 million.

Lord Stevens, the chairman, said: "In view of the increasing investment needs of the financial information industry, the board of United Newspapers now feels that the potential of Extel Financial, and the interests of its customers and staff, could probably best be developed within a larger financial information business."

United said at the time of its rights issue in June that it had received a number of enquiries for Extel Financial. Graham Wilson, managing director, said about 20 approaches had been received and about eight companies are on the list of potential buyers. He said the company decided officially to put Extel Financial up for sale because of daily specula-

tion about such a likelihood. He added that it had been put up for sale because the financial industry wanted one-stop shopping, with bulk delivery of information services, and the provision of front and back-office services. Veronis Suhler & Associates of New York will handle the disposal.

The announcement was made as United unveiled a 10 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £51.3 million for the first half of the year. Earnings per share were 19 per cent higher at 16.9p, but the interim dividend has been held at 7.5p.

Lord Stevens said the stronger dollar and conversion of the group's Reuters exchangeable preference shares contributed to the better profits. The £190 million from June's rights issue was used to cut borrowings. Net debt after the rights issue fell to £80 million. Profits from its national newspapers, which include the Daily Express and Sunday Express, were 16 per cent higher at £16.26 million.

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Barings leaps to £35m

By OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARINGS, the privately controlled City merchant bank, enjoyed a threefold increase in pre-tax profits to £35.5 million in the first half of 1993, helped by an increase in treasury business and more favourable market conditions. Barings does not provide a detailed profits breakdown.

Baring Securities recovered from its previous first-half losses, and Andrew Tuckey, deputy chairman of Barings, said "the turnaround was significant and was a much improved performance".

Peter Baring, the chairman, said Baring Securities was profitable in each of its markets and made "a significant contribution to the group result". It had previously run up losses of between £10 million and £20 million.

Losses in the securities business and reorganisation costs halved the group's profits last year and led to the departure of Christopher Heath and four colleagues in March.

Baring Brothers was given a boost by activity in the foreign exchange markets and had a high level of cross-border corporate finance activity.

Baring Asset Management lifted its contribution to the group, after attracting new funds, particularly from the United States.

TT turns loss-maker into profit

By COLIN CAMPBELL

TT Group, the electronics, packaging and building services concern, says it has already turned the recently acquired AB Electronic Products group, for which it paid £13 million, from loss into profit. The group is confident about the outcome of the 1993 financial year, which ends on Christmas Day.

Pre-tax profits in the six months to June 26 rose from £7.47 million to £9.42 million. The increased dividend of 2.6p (2.4p) a share underlines the board's confidence about prospects, the group says.

TT expects to announce a final dividend of not less than 4p a share, making 6.6p (6p) for the year.

The electronics division contributed £5.8 million towards pre-interest operating profits of £11.7 million, and the packaging division brought in £4.2 million at the operating level.

In July, TT raised £51.4 million net via a rights issue, allowing it to address the question of AB Electronic's debts and give flexibility for other acquisition opportunities. TT's current net cash holdings total £7.5 million.

The return on capital employed within the building services division remains satisfactory, though the recession continues to affect the building industry, TT says.

Laura Ashley shares slump

By SUSAN GILCHRIST

CONTINUING losses in North America held back recovery at Laura Ashley, pushing profits well below City expectations.

Pre-tax profit at the fashion to home furnishings retailer fell from £17 million to £13 million for the six months to July 31, prompting a sharp slide in the share price, which fell 22p to 87p at yesterday's close. Turnover, however, rose strongly from £116.8 million to £144 million, with double-digit sales growth in Britain and the Continent.

Jim Maxmin, the group's chief executive, said the rising sales demonstrated the strength of the Laura Ashley brand, but he acknowledged that recovery in America, where stock management problems almost brought the business to its knees last year, would take longer than he had predicted. Operating

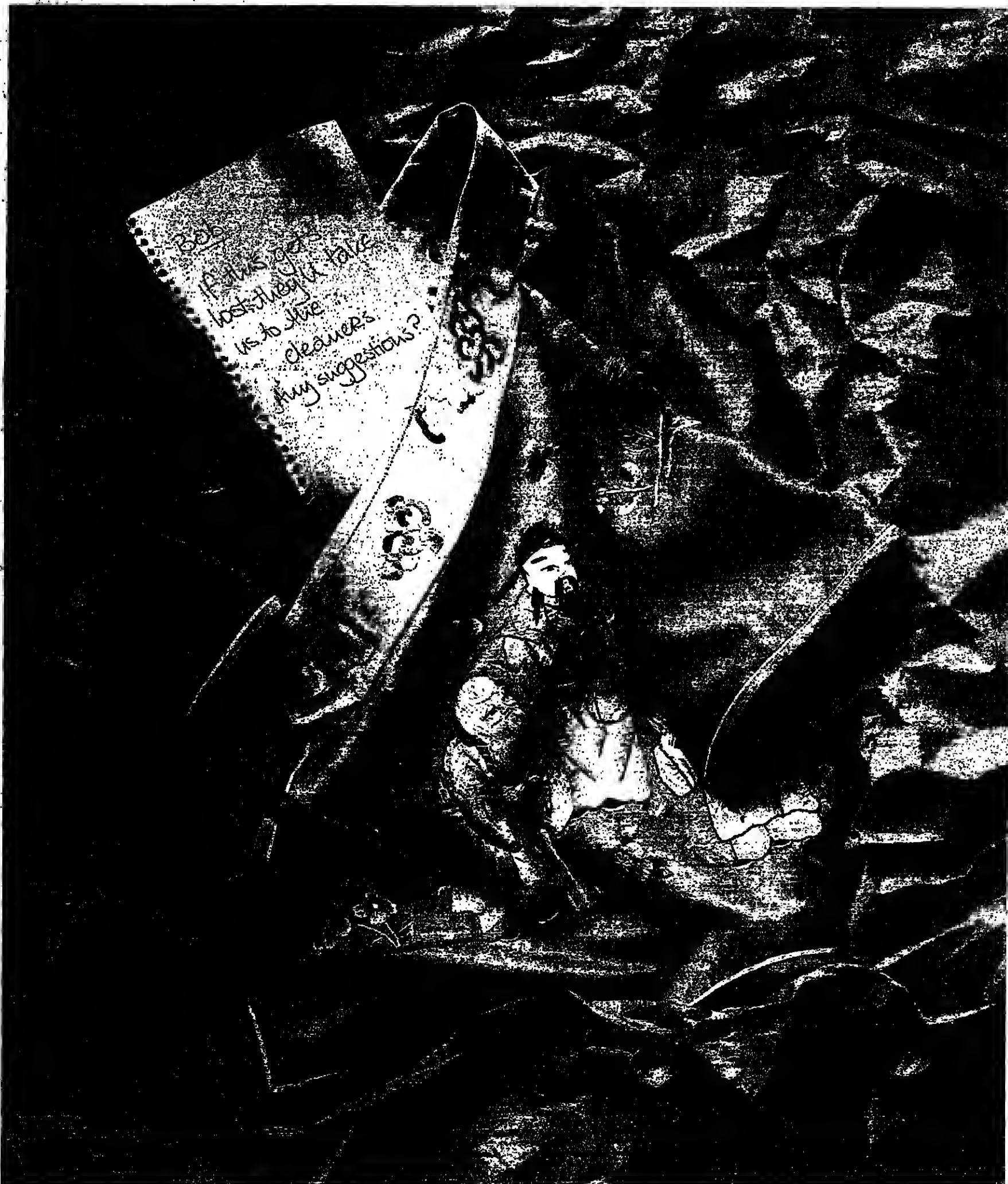
losses in America rose from £500,000 to £3.2 million during the period, although this was substantially lower than the £6.5 million loss incurred in the second half of last year. Mr Maxmin insisted the business was now "out of intensive care", though he added that it would still lose money in the full year.

The British operations forged ahead with a sharp increase in operating profit from £1.4 million to £2.3 million, bolstered by more customers coming through the doors and spending on average 14 per cent more.

The group defied recession in Europe, the company announced, to more than double its operating profits from £700,000 to £1.7 million.

There is no interim dividend.

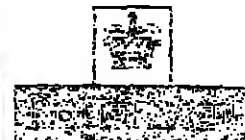
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Public sector output deals may backfire on the Chancellor

Philip Bassett says the unions see Mr Clarke's new policy on public sector wages as a good opportunity to increase pay, not a restriction

Chancellor Kenneth Clarke today faces the severest test of his efforts to restrain public sector pay when leaders of 48,000 firefighters meet employers and afterwards signal their intention to ballot their members on the UK's first national fire strike for 15 years.

Technically, the firefighters' argument is with the government's 1.5 per cent pay ceiling for all 5.5 million public sector employees rather than the pay bill freeze to follow it that Mr Clarke announced last week. But as TUC leaders acknowledged this week in their measured and careful response to the new pay restraint, the two are being rolled up by the firefighters' potential strike — and no other pay bargaining group will get in the way while the Fire Brigades Union and the government lock horns for the first time since 1977.

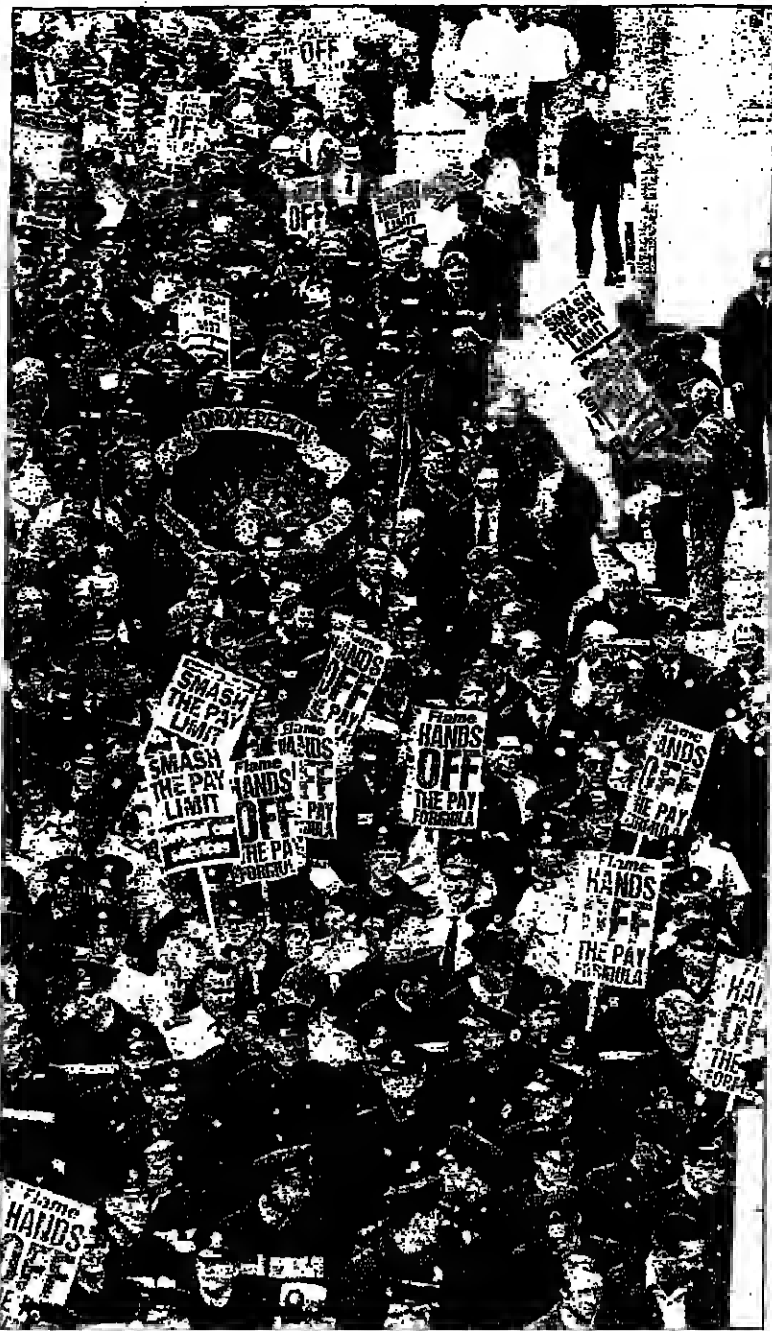
In the wake of the historic union action to Mr Clarke's move — foolishly promulgated by some unions, and given credence by some journalists — the unions are now looking much more thoughtfully at what the new policy will be. "It will be an intelligent response," says Jack Dromey, public relations national secretary of the GSW transport union. "We didn't me down with the last rainfall."

Employers across the public sector, too, are considering what room the ybll freeze — successfully first opposed by Howard Davies, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry — will give for pay rises that crude 1.5 per cent ceiling will not. Some Treasury officials are worried at the new policy will prove to be sensitive because local employers in volved government departments, the uth service, local government and / deals based on improved productivity and efficiency.

The Treasury is always nervous en any measure of financial control s from its hands, but in this case it y have cause. Public sector union of- ls who carry out negotiations with ylovers — as opposed to their union lers, who often don't — are now tak- a more sophisticated approach to Mr Clarke's policy: seeing it not as a riction, but as an opportunity. That scope is there in the public or for productivity deals? Frank son, Labour's employment spokes- , is scathingly dismissive. "How s a firefighter increase his produc- y?" he asks. "Go round lighting a fire and putting them out again?"

ut Mike Cane, who will be leading employers' side in today's talks, is e willing to see the argument. In past 10 years, he says, calls to fire ades have risen by more than 70 e while staffing levels have gone yly 2 per cent. "By that very crude ure, they have had an enormous ovement in productivity."

ude or not, it will be by such



The Fire Brigades Union is the test case for Mr Clarke's policy

measures that detailed union negotiations will test the validity of Mr Clarke's plan for public sector pay — crucial to the government getting control of its deficit problems, since public sector pay accounts for 60 per cent of all current public spending. Productivity deals have long been a private-sector feature. In the 60s and 70s, employers and employees colluded in them to ease their way round government pay policy. In the harder markets of the 1980s and beyond, they have become vehicles for genuinely improved efficiency.

But unlike manufacturing, where greater output can be easily measured, productivity in the service sector is difficult to gauge. The trading parts of the public sector — these days, not much more than British Coal and British Rail — are long familiar with (sometimes bogus) productivity deals, but fierce competition in energy and transport will act as the discipline for real efficiency improvements giving pay rises under Mr Clarke's plan.

Particularly in the civil service, the government has always kept money

generated from efficiency improvements off limits — pushing it back into the exchequer rather than distributing some of its benefits to the staff who generated it. Treasury officials acknowledge privately that Mr Clarke's move opens this Pandora's box for the first time to employee negotiators.

John Major's citizen's charter — itself an attempt to both measure and improve public service productivity — has provided some unprecedented indicators which union negotiators will now try to exploit on pay. Virginia Bottomley's health department, for instance, achieved efficiency savings of 2.2 per cent in 1991-92, and has a 1992-93 target of 2 per cent improvements.

David Hunt's employment department improved efficiency by 1.9 per cent in 91-92, is anticipating a further gain of 3.3 per cent in 92-93 and targets a further 3 per cent improvement in 93-94. Under Mr Clarke's CBI-derived proposals, unions will argue that such improvements warrant extra pay.

Elsewhere, the scope for pay rises may be larger than the "Government pay freeze" headlines suggested.

Health service managers, for instance, talk of the NHS having made efficiency gains this year of 5.6 per cent. Eric Cairnes, former NHS personnel head, claims the health service could lose a fifth of its staff — 180,000 jobs — without patient care being affected.

"We know what 'productivity' means," said one disenchanted local government union official. "It means more of our members losing jobs." In the labour-intensive service sector, where productivity cannot be hugely affected as it can in the manufacturing sector by capital investment in new plant and machinery, productivity usually has meant fewer jobs — but then, unions have been traditionally willing to go along with that if it means more pay for members kept on. Over the lifetime of the Conservative government, more than 1.6 million public sector jobs have been lost.

Calculations by *The Times* on figures from the Treasury show over the period 1979-92, 373,000 jobs have gone in central government — including 228,000 in the NHS and local authorities have lost 147,000 jobs. Employment has risen in social services (up 66,000, to 410,000) and the police (up 28,000, to 204,000). Even given the effects of unemployment, private sector employment has risen over the period by 1.3 million, or 7.2 per cent. At the same time as private sector jobs have grown while those in the public sector have gone, public and private sector pay have largely kept pace, with public sector pay tending to feel the effect of the two recessions in the period more slowly than the private sector.

Clearly, much of this employment change is due to privatisation. Nationalised industry employment fell over the period by 1.37 million, or 74.2 per cent, as organisations went back into the private sector. Some argue that this makes comparisons of public and private sector job losses bogus. A new study to be published this month by the European Policy Forum will argue it is all just headcount movement — though having pressed for privatisation, it is difficult for such bodies to then try to dismiss its employment effects as little more than statistical manipulation.

Bodies such as the Institute of Directors point to the subsequent job losses in the privatised industries as clear indicators of how overmanned the public sector still is. British Gas jobs are down 17 per cent since privatisation, National Power and PowerGen 20 per cent, British Steel 28 per cent and BT 32 per cent — many with more losses to come. Mr Clarke's private-sector style productivity bargaining could lead to sizable pay rises based on such numbers — in addition to those generated by performance pay systems the government is keen to introduce as far as possible in the public sector, and which are — as they were under the 1.5 per cent policy — likely to be exempt from the new proposals.

Today and in the coming weeks of their strike ballot, the firefighters will provide the sound and the fury to accompany Mr Clarke's restraint — and there remains a real prospect of industrial action. But behind that, the small print of Mr Clarke's new policy is being studied hard — and it is the outcome of that which is likely to determine its eventual public spending and political success or failure.

TEMPUS

Cut-price bubbly

GUINNESS has lost much its sparkle since the champagne days four years ago when it first linked with LVMH and profit growth seemed unstoppable. Recession held back whisky volumes and prices, while the group's disastrous Spanish brewing adventure has shown its acquisitive instincts as fallible as any other company's. The end of the group's pension holiday, which will cut profits by £30 million, is another sign that the party is over.

The spirits industry is not likely to recover with any speed. Group sales are rising in America as the economy improves, but this is more than offset by the decline in continental Europe, where volumes are falling and drinkers are trading down. The sharp contraction in the imported whisky market in Japan, where margins are so generous, is also worrying. So far Guinness has felt no pain,

thanks to the strong yen and a rising market share, but it is unlikely to escape for ever. That said, Guinness and its French partner still form the most powerful spirits combine in the world. Guinness's debts look high, but the cash generated by its spirits business makes them easily supportable and even permits acquisitions like Desnoes & Geddes to complete its global reach. While profits will be at best stagnant this year and next, Guinness's market position remains unweakened, and the market will turn eventually.

At the beginning of 1991, the p/e ratio on Guinness shares stood at a frothy 60 per cent premium to the market. The group's slowdown, and the end of the market's love affair with brands has reversed this to a discount approaching 30 per cent. At that price they begin to look cheap, even without the sparkle.

United News.

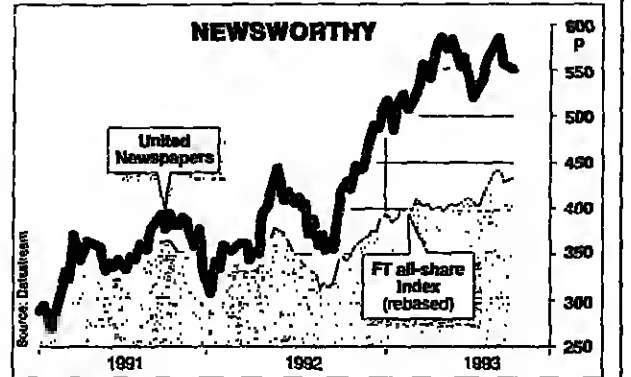
LORD Stevens of Ludgate's passionate pursuit of Exel was not the most misguided corporate adventure of the eighties, but its consequences have been expensive enough for United Newspapers.

For the £250 million it paid in 1987, United bought a financial information service that had no relevance to the rest of its activities, a City printing business it promptly sold, a racing wire operation which was facing obsolescence with the advent of satellite television, and the Tolleys and Benn business publications. United hopes to receive at least £60 million for Exel, and the business publications are possibly worth the same again. In all the group has made a loss of perhaps £100 million on the episode, plus interest costs. This should not detract

from the impressive performance of United's on-going businesses. Operating margins have slipped almost 2 percentage points on magazines and advertising periodicals, but only after a prolonged downturn in advertising.

If Exel fetches the price United hopes, debts should be under £20 million by year end, leaving the group look-

ing distinctly ungeared. Unless it can find some decent acquisitions, the combination of the rights issue and disposal will depress earnings per share this year and next. A bid for Blenheim Group, for example, is not beyond United's scope. It would surely be a better fit, and perhaps better value, than Exel proved.



Oil

THERE was a touch of desperation in the recent bounce in oil prices, attributed to fears or hopes that civil war in Russia might cut off Siberian supplies. The spot price of Brent crude recovered sharply after plunging to \$15.40 but is once again threatening to slide under \$16. Downward pressure stems from anxiety over this weekend's Opec meeting when members will try to present a united front in the face of weakening demand in Europe and Japan, persistent breaches of production quotas and the threat of Iraqi oil exports resuming.

Opec needs to agree new production quotas that accommodate demands for a bigger slice of the cake from Nigeria and Iran as well as Kuwait. The biggest producer, Saudi Arabia, is keen to keep a lid on Iranian demands but Saudi offers are not in a state to take on Opec in a price war. Opec production at almost 25 million barrels a day is running well ahead of the agreed ceiling of 23.5 million.

For Opec to be really

effective it needs to use its combined resources to shut down surplus wells with compensation for poorer states. But the Gulf war has weakened the Saudis, the most likely funders of such a scheme. Opec may announce a face-saving formula this weekend but, without real agreement on quotas, it will look like a collection of fair-weather friends.

second half, now, back to DM25 per box from a low of DM14 in the spring, will not be enough to restore Geest's full year profits to last year's £20 million, but the market has effectively written off 1993. The company's heavy investment in prepared foods in the UK should pay in 1994 while the protected Eurobanana could send profits heading for £30 million next year.

Geest

THE banana glut in the first half of this year should be a warning to those who would rely too much on market regulation. But Geest's misfortune can be placed squarely on bad timing. Latin America producers scrambled to sell their production into Europe ahead of new EC rules aimed at protecting bananas from Africa and the Caribbean. These have hit US banana giants who have seen their share of the European market tumble with cuts in their quotas for "dollar" bananas. Companies like Geest are picking up licences to import the cheaper Latin American fruit.

Better banana prices in the

Laura Ashley

DIXONS may have rid itself of its American nightmare but other British retailers are still wallowing in transatlantic misery. Laura Ashley's distinctive products are popular in America, but its stock control previously left much to be desired and the problems are lingering. Ashley should have learnt from others and not have so rashly predicted earlier that it would come into profits in the second half in America. Perhaps it should learn from others and look at cutting its exposure to the US market. Ashley has sales of £247 million a year, yet is barely profitable. That is unacceptable in any country.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

ipping the ater clean

It is off to the Bahamas for Tony Nelson, economic secretary to the Treasury and another of N M Rothschild's political offspring. Nelson is due to speak at the monwealth Finance Ministers' Conference, has an irrefutable track record to fall on. But nowhere in his anguished *Who's Who* entry are there any references to his at Slater Walker, the amment group that fell n to the 1974 financial and some claim helped the way for. Why the set? In July 1973, the ncial Times described n, then 25, as the bearer a classic young Tory ree: ex-Harrow, Cam- e and N M Rothschild nd working for SW on pean property and nent banking." Three later, the *Daily Mail* 1 him as "MP for Chich- and trendy whizz-kid of Slater Walker financial e" before reporting he had advised Prince es to join a union and get in a factory.

"Gypsy Jack", who is retiring after 25 years in the market. He began his career with Montagu Loehel Stanley in 1968. Now Gilbert, 55, plans to spend more time in Spain. "I am really quite sad to see him go," says John Roberts, head of compliance, who gave him his first job all those years ago.

DINERS at the Savoy Grill this week were surprised to spot Norman Lamont enjoying a very public lunch with John Jay, City editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*. The former Chancellor had been expected to avoid the press after a few frosty words from N M Rothschild, perturbed by his frequent outbursts, but the advice appears to have had little effect. Expect more ramblings this weekend.

Cut up

EMBARRASSING scenes in Sheffield, synonymous with fine cutlery, at a reception hosted by the local chamber of

commerce. Dignitaries included Bryon Upton, director of cutler Richardson Sheffield and vice-president of the chamber, which has long campaigned against cheap utensils from the Far East. All went well until Upton glanced down at his knife and fork and saw they were made in Korea. He later presented the caterers with a set of Sheffield's finest ... and the imposters have gone out with the rubbish.

EC digits

THE boys in Brussels have done it again. A new EC directive designating 112 as the single common emergency number for Europe has resulted in police raids on Ernst & Young's Fetter Lane office in London. Dialling 112 internally connects callers to the VAT department's fax machine, but some miscreants have accidentally been tapping in the digits on an outside line, triggering chaos. One week alone saw 12 such police alerts.

Your shout, Ted

SOMETHING of a milestone is reached, this weekend, when David Thorpe of Kleinwort Benson, otherwise known as "Tannoy Ted" after his ringing tones, treats his wife, Margaret, to a celebratory 50th birthday lunch at a secret venue outside London. The occasion is timely, since Thorpe began his career with Grieson Grant 25 years ago this month and is also celebrating a quarter of a century as a Stock Exchange member. Colleagues are looking forward to a round of drinks.

JON ASHWORTH.

BUSINESS LETTERS

No bias meant in CBI pension study

From the Deputy Director-General, CBI

Sir, Graham Searjeant's piece on the CBI's pensions survey (September 15) contained some pretty strong language. I hope that those who read it were able to get beyond this and understand what the CBI was really trying to do. Equalisation of the state pension age is a big question that can't be ducked for much longer.

The business view — that we should equalise at 65 — has been well known for some time. The CBI survey, which we asked Gallup to carry out, was an attempt to measure what employees, as opposed to employers, thought: should the decision be to equalise at 65, or at 60? Put as baldly as that, there's perhaps not too much doubt about the likely answer. But it might not be a well-informed answer. So, wisely or unwisely, we attempted to include in the question some indication of the fuller implications of the choice. Sixty, after all, is not a cost-free option. The survey may have over-simplified a complicated subject, but it certainly did not set out to load the dice. That would have

been to defeat the whole purpose of the exercise.

Mr Searjeant is right that there are other ages, apart from 60 and 65, on which to equalise. He mentions 63, calculated to be fiscally neutral. Another possibility is 67, chosen by some countries with similar demographic profiles to our own who are concerned about the cost burdens that would otherwise be carried by working populations that are shrinking in relation to those who have retired.

Mr Searjeant reminded us, too, of the concept of a flexible decade of retirement. No reminder was needed. This has been the CBI's stated objective for a long time — as it happens, for all but a decade. It is, of course, the obvious and sensible way forward. Unfortunately, however you look at it, it's difficult to see how to get there without first taking a decision about equalisation of the "normal" age of access to state pensions.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PRICE
Deputy Director-General,
Confederation of British Industry, Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street, WCI.

Pros and cons of stop loss cover for names

From Mr Chris Dudley

Sir, Michael Wood is correct to say that stop loss insurance could have saved some names (at the expense of others) and it would appear that it did.

However, if all names had been stop lossed at Lloyd's for the 1989 and 1990 accounts then the stop loss portions would (under this version of the spiral) have ended up only with those names unfortunate enough to have been involved with syndicates writing stop loss portions — Sturge 206 for example.

If the market hadn't provid-

ed stop loss protection the overall market loss would have been smaller and professional underwriters less inclined to underwrite unprofitable business.

As an alternative strategy, Mr Wood might consider only joining syndicates where the underwriter has all, or most, of his personal capacity on his own syndicate without benefit of stop loss protection.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS DUDLEY,
The "Green" Swan Inn,
Stones Green,
Harwich, Essex.

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EXTRAWATCH SECURITY SYSTEMS

Shares end lower on the day

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began September 20. Dealings end October 1. Settlement day October 4. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Net Yld	P/E
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22	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
23	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
24	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
25	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
26	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
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32	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
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37	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
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DRAPERY, STORES

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198	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
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200	100	99	100	100	0	0	0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1993	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Net Yld	P/E
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203	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
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205	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
206	100	99	100	100	0	0	0
207	100	99	100	100	0	0	0

Help at the end of the line

A top job in customer support with one of the computer industry's big names can mean a package worth more than £30,000 a year. But it can be hard, challenging work, strictly limited to those who can leave their stress at the office.

Telephone support workers are the voice on the end of the line against whom a disgruntled user may discharge his fury, sometimes in highly abusive tones. They can also receive some extremely daft questions.

One supplier spent hours on the telephone to a customer whose floppy disc had jammed in the drive only to discover that the disc in question was a five-and-a-quarter inch version, which had been physically crumpled into the single three-and-a-half inch drive that came with the machine. Another company, accused by a frustrated customer of sending out faulty software, received photocopies of the offending disc and a note asking for it to be fixed.

For all the strains of customer

Dealing with angry customers requires technical and social skills, says David Hewson

support, it is a skill which is becoming ever more important in the personal computer world. Software companies, increasingly keen to hook users into an almost annual cycle of upgrades, know that they are unlikely to get repeat business from dissatisfied users.

For the manufacturers, who are now turning out computers that are physically little different from each other, good technical support is one way of setting themselves apart from their competitors. Microsoft's technical support unit has increased from 32 people three years ago to 220 to cope with the flood of calls, currently running at around 3,000 a day.

People working in customer services come from a wide range of backgrounds. Some are ex-programmers, now supporting software on which they first worked. Others are field engineers who have abandoned the road for the telephone hotline. A few are dedicated software users with no special technical background but with a knowledge of a particular application, and an ability to deal with customers that has won them a full-time job.

There is no generally recognised qualification for customer support workers, though the larger companies usually run in-house training systems, and a diploma or degree in computer studies can give a head start. However, employers expect support workers to have a sound technical knowledge of personal computers; personality, and an ability to deal with people, is essential.

For example, both Microsoft and Dell, a personal computer manufacturer, train staff in dealing with difficult customers, using the same kind of techniques found in teach-



Tony Entlinger, Microsoft's director of product support services, with two colleagues

ing airline departure desk workers how to handle travellers affected by flight delays.

Tony Entlinger, Microsoft's director of product support services, says that applicants can rule themselves out of a job at a first interview if they fail to listen

actively to the questions put to them. He says: "A lot of people think that customer support is a mundane job, but it isn't. It can be very stressful. For some reason, people think it is OK to be very abusive down the phone in a way they would not be in person."

The level of technical experience required will vary from company to company and application to application. In fields such as networking and Microsoft's new Windows NT system, a high degree of technical knowledge is going to be essential, and that will be supplemented by

in-house training. For more general support, a working knowledge of using a computer for everyday tasks may well suffice.

Dell, which has 100 customer support staff running a free, 24-hour, seven-days-a-week hotline for the life of its products, has a complicated recruitment operation, involving a technical test, a telephone skills test, a personality test and an intensive interview.

Those who make the grade then go on a two-week induction course followed by a three to five-week course on customer support before they even talk to a customer.

In most companies, starting salaries begin at £10,000-£12,000 per annum, but competition for experienced and skilled staff means that they can secure packages worth £30,000 or more, with cars and other incentives.

The growth of customer support services makes for an obvious career path from telephone support to managing support operations. Chris Norton, Dell's customer services manager, says that the skills developed in dealing with people often lead to work in sales roles, or specialist support teams handling larger customers.

Companies also receive a constant stream of applications for customer support jobs, which are usually welcomed, though recruitment tends to be phased to specific timeframes so a speculative application may simply go into the pending file.

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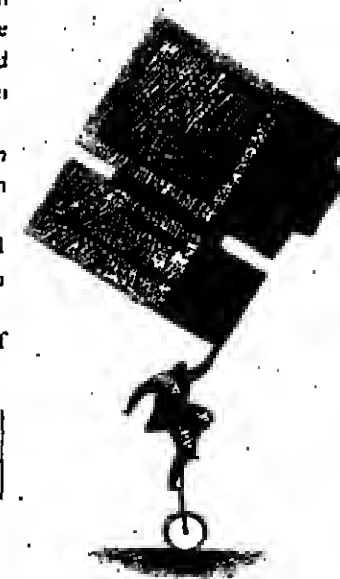
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INFOTECH

Gateway to a billion-dollar fortune

Matthew May meets the American mail-order king who is about to flood Britain with cheaper PCs

Personal computers are never cheap, at least not according to those who make and sell them. Cheap can too easily imply something nasty or of poor quality. But whether they're called "value brands", low-priced or budget — PCs and their portable cousins will be getting cheaper.

Next month a new and giant competitor is coming to Britain. Gateway 2000 is a company that in less than eight years has grown from a one-person outfit, run from a barn in Iowa, to a billion-dollar business that dominates the mail-order market of computers in America. Last year it sold almost half a million systems, resulting in a 76 per cent increase in its sales, worth more than \$1 billion, and a 105-million profit.

Gateway is based in North Iowa City in South Dakota, an area with low labour costs and overheads for any business. Production and marketing for British sales will take place in Ireland. It will be the company's first venture overseas and, as in America, its products will be available only by mail order, removing the

need for the extra profit margin that usually goes to dealers or computer stores.

The rapid growth of Gateway has also made Ted Waitt, founder and now president and chief executive, rich at the age of 30. He owns half the company, but packages his products in sported "cow boxes" to reflect his family's humble beginnings as cattle farmers. "Prices are generally a lot higher in Britain, but ours will be very similar to those we charge in the United States," he says.

It could be welcome news for British customers as PC prices here are often 20 to 30 per cent higher than in America.

'Nobody will come close to our prices'

ca. Gateway's basic 486 notebook computer, one of 12 models to go on sale soon, will cost £1,000 plus VAT, compared to \$1,500 (about £960) in the US. It already sells more than 20,000 computers a year to people outside the US.

"On most products nobody will come close to our prices," Mr Waitt promises. Initial customers for the British models, he says, are expected to be second or third-time buyers who know what they want, understand the jargon and feel



Ted Waitt with his "cow box" products and, right, how Dell hopes to increase sales by making different computers for various types of buyers

safe to buying at low prices because they understand exactly what is on offer.

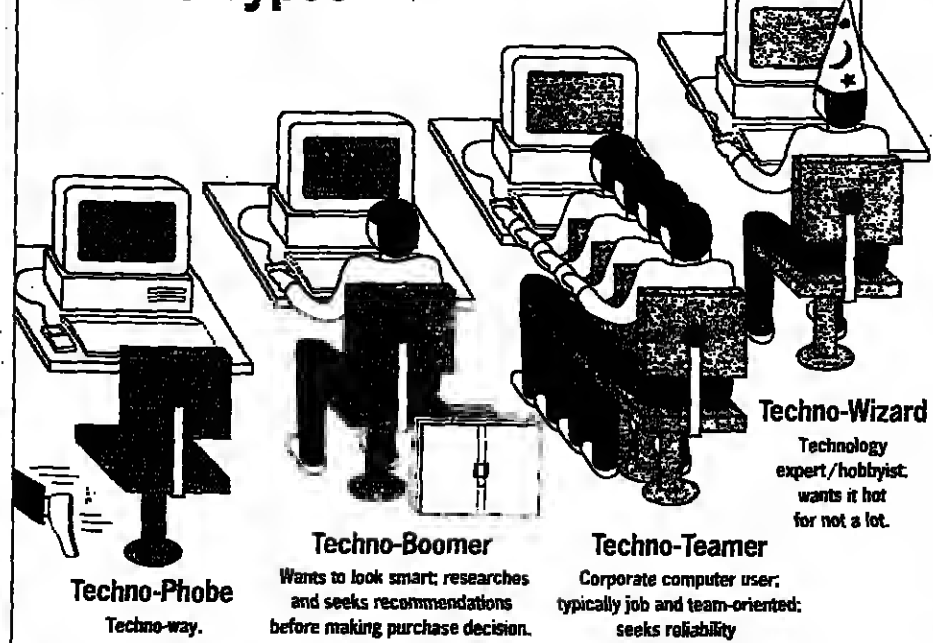
Perhaps surprisingly for a company selling so strongly on price all Gateway machines use Intel chips and not the cheaper clones that are starting to appear. "We have found that most customers prefer Intel and the cost savings from using another company's chips are really not that great," Mr Waitt says.

Gateway's growth is a strength and a weakness. Ana-

lysts say it offers the lowest prices for "viable products" because customers feel secure that it will be around in the future. But the company's rapid expansion has also caused problems in keeping customer and technical support services up to the level of some competitors, although that may be improving.

While an American survey of customer satisfaction this month, by marketing firm JD Powers & Associates, ranked Dell and Compaq highest —

Techno-Types



Gateway came a respectable third and ahead of Apple and IBM who were described as below average.

Dell Computer, the mail-order pioneer in this field, has clearly had its feathers ruffled and has gone on the attack. Its advertising in America is running headlines such as: "The gateway to the hottest PC technology isn't Gateway" and "Performance that blows the gates off Gateway".

Dell's sales are double those of Gateway. Last month it

announced its fifteenth consecutive quarter of revenue growth, but it also had to announce the first quarterly loss.

Dell's response to such fierce price competition includes dividing the market into several different customer types as part of a plan to target market niches and produce different computers for different people.

Michael Dell, the chief executive of the company that bears his name, has come up

with the idea of defining "techno types" that his company can make tailor-made products for. "The strategy that one size-fits all doesn't work when it comes to matching people with the right PC," he says.

Among the categories, for example, is the "techno-wizard", defined as a technology expert or hobbyist who wants the hottest technology for the lowest price and whose greatest concern is losing the edge. The "techno-go" on the

other hand wants a computer that comes ready-to-run out of the box. He is interested in what a computer can do, but not how it works. His greatest concern is being left alone without service and support.

The "techno-boomer" wants to look smart, does research and seeks recommendations before making a decision. His greatest concern is getting it wrong. While the "techno-novice" wants to look smart, he has no knowledge or experience of technology. Finally, there is the "techno-phobe" who rejects technology and avoids it wherever possible.

The advantage of this idea, if it works, is that it identifies those who do not buy primarily on price. Unfortunately for those who sell PCs, the largest group is the "techno-phobes".

A survey, published by Dell this week, found that nearly half the British suffer from technophobia — however, this apparently still leaves us more comfortable with technology than the French or the Germans. "Techno-phobes believe that the more technology creeps into their lives, the less control they have," Dell says.

Such is the pace of change in the business that Northern Shell, a publishing company, has decided that in addition to countless monthly computer magazines the time has returned when sufficient customers can be persuaded to buy a weekly magazine to keep up to date.

The first issue of PC News Weekly went on sale yesterday at £1.35. Techno-phobes are unlikely to join the rush.

Goodbye to the ballot box?

Next June, voters in Brussels, Antwerp and Liège are to be unseated in a computerised ballot. Their ballot papers will be like credit cards and, behind the polling booth curtains, they will find a screen and light-pen.

The impetus for the use of new and faster technology comes from Belgian members of parliament who are fed up waiting all night, after a traditional paper-based ballot, or the count to show if they are still employed.

The ferociously complex Belgian version of proportional representation makes it an ideal candidate for computerisation. Counting, recounting, ranking and calculating percentages can keep a Flemish returning officer busy until dawn, but it is the stuff of a microprocessor's dreams.

In 1988, the government invited tenders to develop a friendly and re-usable electronic system. The winning consortium includes Philips, the software house Stesud, Barco and a small systems engineering company called Dine. The consortium is now preparing for a large-scale trial at the next European parliamentary elections in 1994.

What might at first appear to be a simple case of data transfer has turned out to be a delicate exercise in anti-fraud design that minimises technophobia and observes political sensitivities.

"Our system mimics the traditional ballot by keeping the polling booth and the ballot box physically and electronically separate," says Derk Ghekiere, Dine's general manager. "Each stage has been computerised to make it faster, but they have not been linked because that could increase the risk of corruption and fraud."

The traditional system of papers, booths and boxes has evolved from the need to keep elections clean and secure. The Belgians have so far spent five

Next June, the Belgians are testing a computerised voting system.



The days of old-style ballot box voting may soon be over

years working out a system that can reach the same standards electronically.

Voters will be given a plastic card with a magnetic strip that is inserted into a personal computer in the polling booth. The screen prompts them to choose a language of preference — Flemish or French — and will then display a list of all candidates. As many as 100 have been known to run for a single constituency.

The Belgian government specified that 125 names must fit on a single screen because no one would want the possibility of being relegated to a second screen. The screen also is black and white so party colours do not influence the voters.

By pressing a light-pen against a candidate's name, a black circle appears to the right of the name. The voter then has the option of changing the vote or confirming it and moving on to the next screen and the next vote.

The use of touch-sensitive screens was rejected because smears from fingerprints could reveal how previous voters had voted. The mouse was not chosen because it usually requires some hand-eye co-ordination and training, while the keyboard can intimidate people not familiar with computers.

The light-pen, on the other hand, most resembles the pencil and paper system that people know and understand.

Votes are recorded on to the magnetic strip before the plastic card is ejected. The voter will then take the card and insert it into another personal computer which fulfils the role of electronic ballot box. This reads the magnetic strip and retains the card.

This computer counts the votes as they come in and will, at the close of the poll, deliver the results instantly. At the last general election, the count in Brussels took two days. In the Belgian trials, where voting is compulsory, 1.3 million electors will cast their votes on 1,800 computers and 350 more will be used to count them in the three test constituencies.

To keep costs down, specially adapted personal computers used in schools will be used. Over the past year, a card reader and two dormant chips have been added to them.

At election time next year, the polling officer will insert a smart card into the relevant computers and the usual chip will be switched off and isolated while sleeping, election chips wake up. After the election the polling officer will reverse the process. The smart card even counts the number of computers switched off to make sure that none have disappeared, along with their votes.

While there will be no electronic trace of who voted for whom, the plastic cards will be kept safe in case post-election recounts are needed. But, unlike ballot papers, the information on the magnetic strips can be erased and the cards re-used at the next election.

The trials will cost BF480 million (about £1 million). If they succeed, the Belgian government will give every district the opportunity to have their "school" computers adapted for elections the following spring, although paper ballots will continue to be a legal alternative.

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Constant update

THE largest worldwide provider of information services to personal computer users, CompuServe, is to start a multimedia extension of its information service, next year.

Members with CD-Rom-equipped computers can receive constantly updated on-line information enhanced by audio and video components.

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Opening lines

EUROPEAN executives want telecommunications markets opened up to more competition, according to a survey commissioned by BT.

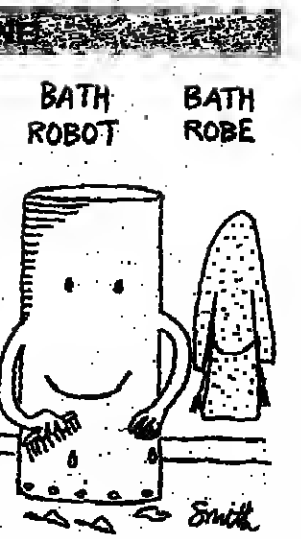
The poll, of 500 chief executives, found support ranging from 75 per cent in France to 94 per cent in Holland.

EC ministers decided in June to liberalise the telephone market for voice communications by 1998, but EC countries with the least-developed networks might benefit from a delay of five years.

Yen for a shower

AFTER four years and millions of yen worth of government funding, the Japanese will soon be able to buy the ultimate in shower technology — a bath robot.

Bathers need only sit inside the 5ft 3in-tall cubicle to savour the entire computer-controlled treatment: a three-minute sauna, followed by a spray of hot water, a jet of soap, more hot water to rinse, then a cool, drying breeze.



Fuji Shoko, the manufacturer, says the £30,000 robot was originally targeted at workers coming home too tired or drunk to bathe themselves but now hope "Bath Robot" will be appreciated by the elderly.

Unhappy pact

FRICITION between Tokyo and Washington escalated this week over the amount of market-share cornered by foreign countries in Japan's semiconductor industry.

Japan claims the share is 21.6 per cent, while America says it is 19.2 per cent. It is a crucial difference. Japan and the US signed a semiconductor pact in 1992 under which Tokyo agreed to a goal of 20 per cent by the end of 1992.

Joint project

VIDEO game-maker Sega and the electronics company, Hitachi, are to jointly develop hardware and software for multimedia projects.

Sega says it has begun working on a new home-use video game machine based on a Hitachi chip for 1994. Hitachi plans to develop portable communications devices for business uses.

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The switch to electronic commerce

Jane Bird wonders why more British companies are not investing in electronic trading

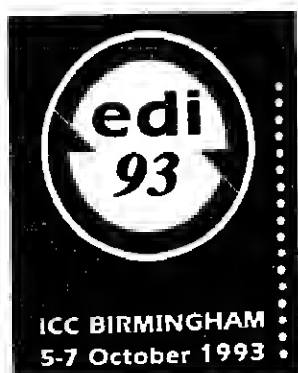
Since 1989, John Leigh, managing director of Eurodollar, the car rental giant, has had electronic links with 4,000 business partners, including customers, travel agents and banks. Eurodollar, formerly Swan National, is now the UK's biggest British-owned car rental company.

"Electronic trading has had a crucial role in helping us to achieve our goals," says Mr Leigh, who believes strongly that companies should give up their addiction to paper and use electronic trading, known more formally as electronic data interchange. EDI involves the transmission of orders, invoices, remittance notes, and ultimately payments, by computer communications using phone lines.

Next month, about 2,000 people are expected to visit Birmingham for EDI 93, an exhibition and conference on electronic trading. Electronic trading is considered faster, easier and more accurate than traditional paper-based systems. Orders can be despatched in seconds, reducing the risk of customers running out of stock.

At Coats Vuyella, the textile and clothing group, for example, large efficiency gains have been made.

Stephen Russell, divisional finance director for Coats Vuyella, says: "In the past, dye batches would sometimes sit around for 24 hours waiting



for the paperwork from the customer to catch up." Now instructions arrive in advance. When machines communicate directly with each other, there are also fewer opportunities for error. Accurate transmission is virtually guaranteed, so long as correct data has been entered.

Public-sector use may soon account for half of UK traffic

The technology enables users to access and contribute to vast databases, whether to list their products or find suppliers. Eurodollar automatically feeds the registration details of its 12,000 vehicles into a national database used by dealers when buying and selling cars. This reduces the likelihood of theft of the vehicles.

So why haven't more busi-

nesses switched to electronic trading? PFA, a London consultancy, says that only about 10,000 organisations use it to any extent.

Gil Patrick, a PFA director, comments: "We forecast an increase of between 25 and 30 per cent in the number of organisations using EDI this year, but the figure has been more like 20 per cent."

Most of the growth is among large corporate users, up to a third of which now have an electronic trading capability.

"But even they only exploit it for a tiny proportion of the potential transactions," says Mr Patrick. Overall he estimates that fewer than 5 per cent of business transactions in Britain are handled electronically.

In the past, many users cited lack of industry standards as a reason not to invest in EDI. But this excuse is no longer valid, says Gary Lynch, the EDI Association's chief executive. There are now two standards — Tradacoms for British

trade and Edifact for international transactions.

"Standards are not an issue," he says. "Anyone who says they will not install EDI because there are no standards has either misunderstood or been misled."

Another common reason given for delay is that the equipment is still expensive to install.

Lee Tate, managing director



John Leigh, the managing director of Eurodollar, which has set up electronic links with 4,000 business partners

of International Network Services, the biggest supplier of EDI facilities, admits "Cost is certainly part of the problem."

In the past, many companies were forced by single powerful customers to adopt the technology. "But we are running out of companies that have this much power over the

market," Mr Tate says. "If we are to make the breakthrough to get 100,000 users, we need to lower the entry cost for small and medium-size businesses."

One way to justify the cost of investment is to analyse the extra custom the new technology might bring. "Would-

be users should take into account what they might otherwise spend on marketing," Mr Leigh says. "Then it would not seem so expensive."

Another way of easing an organisation gently into the technology is via the more user-friendly electronic mail: people send each other messages just as they would on paper. Once the benefits are demonstrated, it is easier to win support for the more highly structured data-exchange techniques of EDI.

The technology is also benefiting from the current fashion for business process re-engineering, whereby organisations restructure to improve efficiency and streamline their methods of handling information. Electronic trading can be a part of this.

Although EDI has been pioneered by the private sector, government users could soon become the main users. There is enormous potential in areas such as health records, social service benefits, the judiciary, and defence procurement.

Communications between doctors, pathology laboratories and hospitals could be speeded up, for example, thereby improving patient care and reducing the present duplication of data.

The first steps are being taken, and by the end of next year, according to the PFA, public-sector applications could account for about half of British traffic, compared with virtually none in 1987.

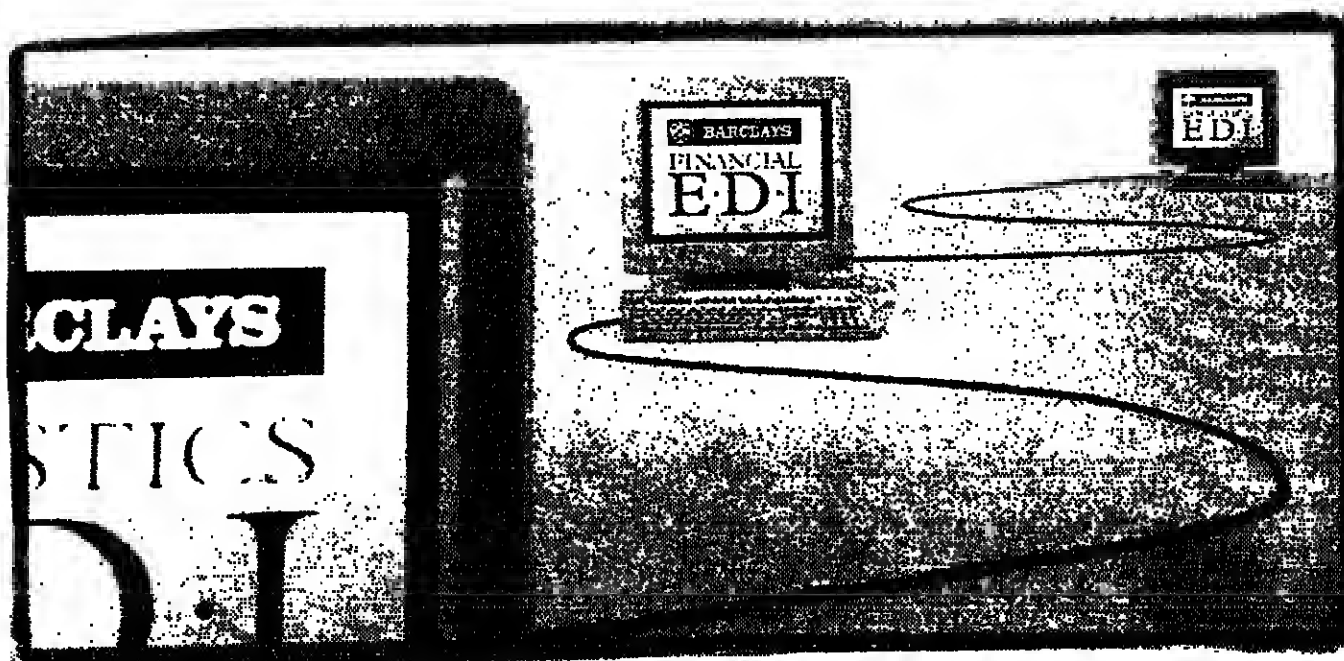
Another stimulus to growth should be the gradual recogni-

tion of how widely electronic trading can be applied. At present, it is still often the preserve of co-teries of users in specific sectors such as retailing, vehicle manufacturing and airline reservation, says Ray Walker, the chief executive of the Simpler Trade Procedures Board, the body which works on the development of EDI standards.

"There is a lack of realisation that it is an ubiquitous tool. Once you have it in one department, you can use it across the board," Mr Walker says. "People need to look at the whole business."

● EDI 93, an exhibition and conference on electronic trading, will take place at Birmingham ICC from October 5-7. Further information: Elenheim Online (081-742 2828).

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System wins a lead role in showbusiness



Richard Cowan of Entertainment UK uses electronic data interchange to control stock

For more and more companies, electronic data interchange is providing a basis for an electronic trading process. It is now used, for example, in the television advertising industry to check schedules and book airtime computer-to-computer, completely eliminating the normal delays associated with fax transfer of information.

A system links most of the main television stations in Britain, plus 20 of the top 25 advertising agencies, providing a flow of information between airtime buyers and sellers, which, says Nick Brown, of Russel & Brown, software developers, "is achieving an average reduction of 70 per cent in the time spent on routine administration tasks".

It is now being extended to the press, linking the advertising agencies with leading publishing companies. The advantage here will be the ability to book the same advertisement in, say, 60 different local papers centrally.

But perhaps the industry that epitomises the benefits of electronic trading is showbusiness. Entertainment UK, part of the Kingfisher group, and a big distributor of home entertainment products, manages the stocking and replenishment of some 70 million stock items for hundreds of non-specialist outlets.

Explaining the need for fast response, Richard Cowan, logistics director of Entertainment UK, says: "We have well over 100 suppliers and we introduce about 1,000 products a month. Customers are able to choose from more than

Keeping control of stock has become faster and easier

150,000 chart or catalogue entertainment products at any one time.

"Maintaining a high level of availability while minimising stock in a fast-changing market is singularly difficult. A title that drops out of the charts is as unsaleable as yesterday's newspaper."

To transfer and process large amounts of data quickly, the company uses an EDI and bar-code system, called Chart Line, where information from 80 per cent of its retail customers is electronically transmitted.

By extending the EDI link to its main carrier, Parceline, Entertainment UK has also been able to reduce order turnaround to next-day delivery, as well as saving costs and eliminating errors. Entertainment UK is now making 250,000 deliveries a year, which equates to 15,000 units an hour.

Martin Silman, the opportunity manager for IBM's Information Network, argues that multimedia has a great future as an extension for electronic trading. His company plans to launch a product, Netmedia, later this year to take advantage of the idea. "One of the problems we have always found is how you start the whole process. With a multimedia system that incorporates touch-screens, people

can look at videos showing what products are available, the colour and the patterns.

"They can make their selection, place the order, state the delivery location and the time they require it, and pay by keying in their account number or swiping their credit card or debit card."

"Once that is done, the order effectively drops out of the back of the screen as an EDI order and continues through the supply and delivery chain completely electronically."

One potential user is Wedgwood, the ceramics manufacturer, which has 300 small retailers selling their wares at very high cost per component.

Mr Silman says: "They are getting Department of Industry funding for a pilot multimedia project that will enable their retailers, who can carry only a small selection, to sell the whole range by making use of a TV-like kiosk."

Government departments, with their mountains of forms and other paper documents, are prime candidates for the electronic interchange of information.

But, as Henry Jerwood, electronic commerce manager for Tandem UK, explains, "The one thing that differentiates government is in the area of statistics. A hot topic now is the use of the electronic transmission computer-to-computer of examination results and teachers' pensions from schools to the local education authority and the Department of Education."

JULIE HARNETT

Technology is a magnificent thing. Unfortunately, it is also an unbelievably expensive thing.

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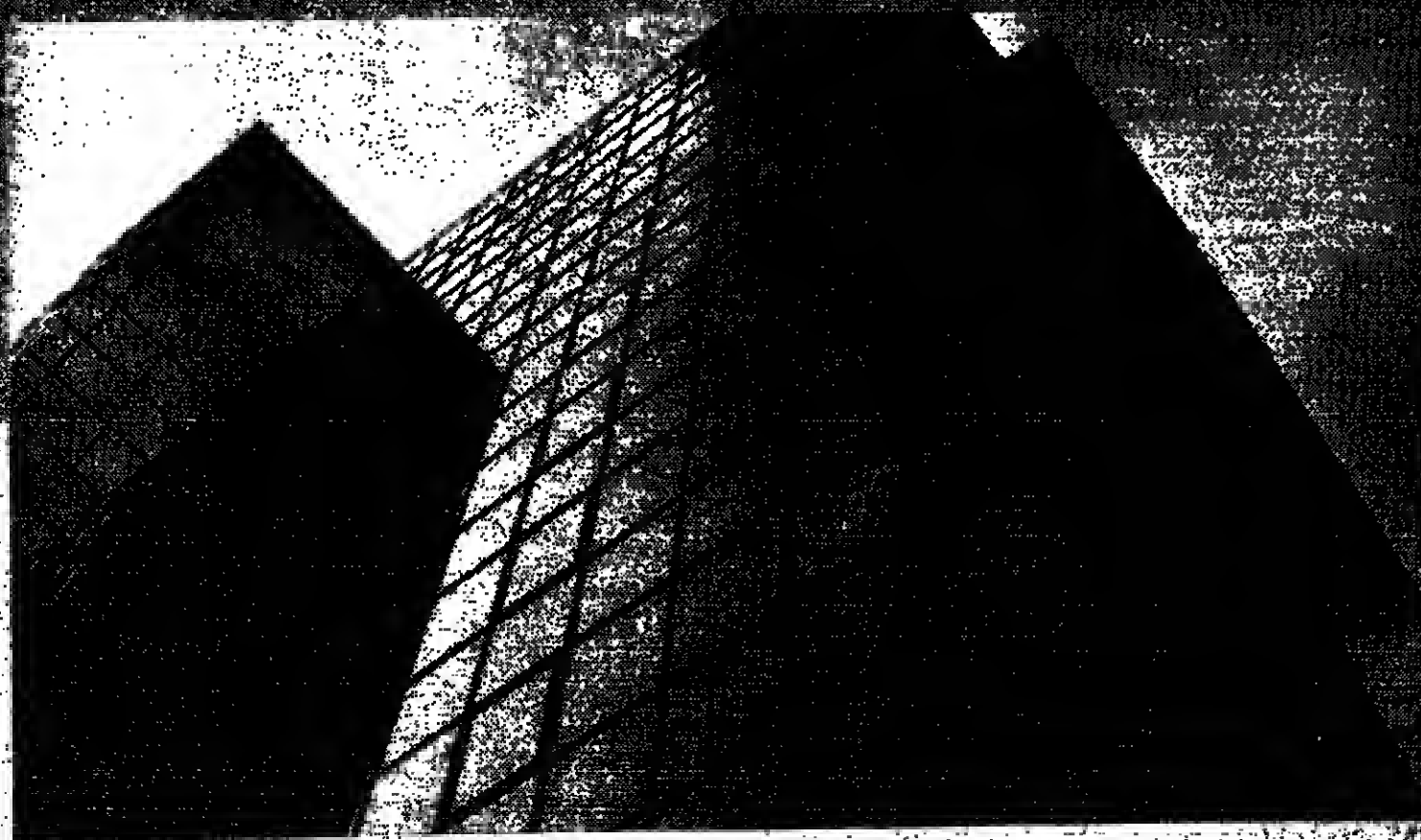
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Andrew Blatherwick at Iceland's dispatch sector. The company can have £50 million of goods as stock at any one time

New motto: never knowingly sold out

The principles of trading partnerships and quick response relationships can be helped enormously by electronic trading, reducing time in the supply chain and thus reducing costs.

Initially, buyers used electronic trading just for passing on orders and receiving invoices. Now several companies, such as B & Q, Tesco, Coats Vyella and Sears, are using electronic trading to send up-to-the-minute forecasts of their likely future needs to suppliers.

In turn, suppliers can send electronic forecasts of their manufacturing output to customers to make sure that levels of supply and demand are likely to match.

Iceland, the food retailer, started trading electronically in April. Iceland stocks 2,000 product lines in its 650 British stores and European outlets and now has an electronic trading programme covering 400 international suppliers. Thirty per cent of total orders are now sent electronically to suppliers such as Burtons and Campbells and Gerber Foods.

Andrew Blatherwick, supply chain director for Iceland, says: "We are driving our programme forward by encouraging suppliers to adopt electronic trading for ordering."

"Then we'll extend the system to cover forecasting, price and product data and delivery advice messages." It sees a key advantage in being able to provide regular updates to suppliers on demand forecasts allowing suppliers to make sure they will be in a position to meet that demand. Simultaneously, Iceland will have access to the production schedules of suppliers to check that they have enough stock.

Stock can be the highest cost for a retail business; hence the advantage of any system that gives a retailer the ability to

Retailers and suppliers are finding that computer forecasting is indispensable, Frank Booty reports

improve the availability of products without needing to increase stock.

The picture becomes clearer given the fact that Iceland can have £50 million of goods as stock at any one time to try to ensure that customer demand can be met in all its stores.

Sarah Philpott, Rover Group's systems coordinator for electronic trading projects, says: "At Longbridge, where the Rover 200 and 400 cars are assembled, we operate three types of forecasting—a planning schedule, which goes to all suppliers; timed delivery, which goes out weekly to a specified number of suppliers; and sequenced delivery, which is strategic and operates around the clock."

Fifteen of the suppliers that work on sequenced supply are given orders, just as a car starts its life on track, so that parts are delivered 12 hours later.

If ten red vehicles are on track, 20 red wing-mirrors will arrive on time further along the line. With local companies, a 40-minute delivery time operates, so that by the time the body shell has passed through the paint plant, the parts are there.

"Sequenced supply is for the awkward parts that would snow us under if we did not have an alternative," says Ms Philpott.

BWL Component Engineering, a Coventry Tube manufacturer, gets 65 per cent of its business from supplying Rover with all types of pipes. The company provides pipes

for cars and tractors from 3/16th of an inch to two inches in diameter.

Ten per cent of the business goes to Massey-Ferguson. Other companies, such as Toyota, Jaguar and Ford, take 27 per cent.

Jessie McVie, the director of finance at BWL, says: "The electronic information we get through daily from Rover is a must for production and planning management."

"When scheduling was introduced we thought this would mean receiving rubbish quicker than through the post. We do not think that now."

With the launch of each new car, Rover intentionally purges its supplier base to favour those that are willing to adopt electronic trading. For some smaller companies, however, the cost of doing so

can outweigh the advantage. The time taken to adopt this trading method differs according to the size and complexity of the task.

Larger companies take longer than smaller ones, which often need a personal computer solution that does not take long to set up. Those adopting the system are offered a software package by Rover free, so that the supplier can print out and read the relevant information.

Dave MacInnis, director of inventory management at Tesco, says: "The motor industry predetermines what they have to make on a certain day—that's scheduling. Forecasting in shopping is different. Forecasting can never be

perfect. We offer 13-week rolling forecasts, where week one is accurate to cover each day of the following week, but week 13 is somewhat inaccurate."

Those who want a 13-week forecast are clothing manufacturers, toy-makers, canned-food companies and Australian wine suppliers, for example, while one-week forecasts are used for fresh produce suppliers.

Tesco now has 1,300 of its 2,000 suppliers using electronic trading. Six hundred more, largely service companies, are at a halfway point, according to Tesco.

The remaining 700, including occasional suppliers such as one sending Christmas trees to Tesco once a year, say they find it difficult to justify going electronic.

Riverside Product of Witham supplies 14 lines of potatoes to Tesco and Iceland. The company received a personal computer and software linking with Tesco's computer. Alan Rees, managing director of the company, says: "We supply 10 to 12 per cent of Tesco's 3,000 tons of potatoes sold each week."

"We get a forecast day by day and line by line of what's wanted for the following week. It also gives us an idea of what they want per week for the rest of the season. On the whole it is pretty accurate."

"As well as the forecasting, there's electronic invoicing and payment direct to our bank. The only time a hiccup can occur is when there has been a promotion and the forecast is made on the results of that trade."

Electronic forecasting from customers should improve service levels because suppliers are no longer dependent on their own predictions. There are fewer surprises and everyone, it is hoped, develops a better understanding of the others' business.

More companies are being urged to adopt electronic trading systems

Big companies want more to join in



David Elliott: some firms lack awareness even of computing

Small firms have become big targets for companies using and supplying electronic trading services. Large companies that have invested heavily in services and the associated organisational and operational changes need as many electronic trading partners as possible to get the best return.

All large organisations have suppliers who say they are too small for electronic data interchange, says Martyn Daniels, chairman of the user group for the Tradenet EDI service and until recently systems strategy controller at B & Q. "But big companies do not want to run two finance departments and two logistics departments—one electronic and the other manual."

David Elliott, EDI manager at British Gas, adds: "Some small specialist firms get several hundred orders a year from us. But such businesses often have no awareness at all of computing, let alone electronic trading."

Big companies have used a variety of methods to encourage their small suppliers and thus help themselves. They are now being supported increasingly in their efforts by the computing systems and services companies.

The simplest way into electronic trading for small firms is to mix electronic trading with the post. The Post Office's Edipost service has won support in its first year from a dozen big companies, including BT, Barclays Bank and technology companies ICL and Motorola.

These send orders electronically to the Edipost computer. The PO then prints the information and posts it to the small firms. Costs range from 40p to 90p a message, depending on volume. The big companies pay the PO and decide for themselves whether to charge their suppliers.

BHS has gone a step further by signing up a small computing-services company run by a former tomato-grower in Stalham, Norfolk.

Meadowhouse Bar Laser links its personal computers to electronic trading networks to receive orders from big companies on behalf of their small suppliers. It sends the details to the small firms and also keys back into the system their written information on their stocks. This means that the

likes of BHS can both send and receive trading documents electronically.

BHS also uses the service for seasonal trade, for example with Christmas card firms, and to try out new suppliers without forcing them to invest in computer systems.

Meadowhouse was formed in 1986 when John Pennell, a market gardener and computer enthusiast, heard that BHS wanted a way to produce barcode labels from EDI data for its small suppliers. Mr Pennell developed a program package which is still Meadowhouse's mainstay.

Big companies are also

working on system and service suppliers to get them to help small firms.

David Elliott of British Gas is working with suppliers of program packages that connect users' computers to the electronic trading services. He says: "We identified a couple of quality products and negotiated some enhancements. We got the developers to adapt the products to check transmissions and alert the user if something goes wrong; this saves the small user the overhead of checking every transaction manually."

The package suppliers benefit because we point out

trading partners towards those products."

British Gas is now talking to developers of business software packages to get them to provide links to electronic trading services.

"Integration of EDI and business systems is a critical issue," Mr Elliott says. "Small firms usually receive an electronic transaction, then have to print it and key the information into their accounting and order processing systems."

The package producers seem to be waiting for market demand for direct links to grow, but the market needs these facilities already."

Service and system suppliers specialising in EDI are starting to respond. Professional Computer Group, a personal computing systems house at Ferndown, Dorset, claims to have the only package that links electronic trading directly to the Pegasus accounting system for PCs.

One user, Silver Lynx, which supplies the leading do-it-yourself retail chains, says its move to electronic trading and the subsequent elimination of keying made possible by the package has reduced the time from order receipt to despatch from several days to 30 minutes.

INS, which has 55 per cent of the UK electronic trading services market, is also going for small firms.

Early this year, it reduced its prices and this month it introduced software which can be adapted by the user to handle the order acknowledgement, delivery notification and invoicing conventions of different customers.

In addition, INS announced a software product to help business systems developers to provide direct links to electronic trading services.

Even so, price is still a key issue. Mr Elliott describes it as "the ultimate barrier". It costs PC users £1,450 to get going with INS, the Professional Computer Group's package costs £2,000 and the Pegasus link a further £500. These are big investments for small firms, although they often become enthusiastic about electronic trading once they have adopted it.

JOHN KAVANAGH

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Form-filling has changed since the single market. Julia King on how HM Customs is promoting the use of electronically stored data

Moving on from pen and ink

Soon after the start of this year, when single market trading conditions began, many companies trading with other European Community countries found that delivery methods had to change completely. As a result of the abolition of paperwork at the port of entry, some consignments were arriving up to 24 hours early. At first there was consternation, followed by delight that such time-savings could be made.

When some trade barriers fell on January 1, domestic customs practices at national borders also ceased. Many employees, such as lorry drivers, therefore no longer have to spend hours at customs while customs declarations are checked. Invoices that relate to the contents of their vehicles are produced and import taxes are levied. Their employers also gain because they no longer have to complete a complex administrative document, the OS form. About seven million of those forms were completed last year, says John Moscrop, principal of the European and International Division in Customs & Excise.

The old import-export requirements have been replaced for some by "Intrastats", used by government and other agencies for the collection and compilation of statistical data on trade. Only companies whose imports or exports amount to more than £135,000 a year are bound by these regulations.

With the condition that the Intrastat information is received by customs promptly, carriers are relieved of the burden of carrying paper documentation relating to their cargoes.

Before Intrastats, 99 per cent of information relating to imports was collected electronically, using the Customs & Excise Depart-



Virginia Ainscough, left, marketing consultant for Community Network Systems, and HM Customs fast patrol boats for inspecting ships

ment Entry Processing System. The figures on exports were not so good — only 12 per cent were collected using electronic means.

Rather than revert to a paper-based system, Customs decided to offer companies a choice of entry methods after the changes. They can opt to complete a British-produced paper form or an EC equivalent — which contains more categories.

Alternatively, data can be sent electronically on tape or disc or through one of a number of networks approved by Customs for connection to its system.

If data is transmitted electronically, Customs has produced message formats that conform to the internationally recognised UN Edifact standard.

By some countries' standards, British Customs has taken a very

laid-back approach to the whole subject. A number of countries took the opportunity of the creation of the single market to impose draconian measures on traders.

Holland, for example, decreed that all companies supplying data should do so electronically; it now issues disc-based software to ensure that data conforms to the template it lays down.

The result, says Keith Marshall, user assurance co-ordinator for the Customs Electronic Data Capture System (EDCS), is that staffing levels in Holland are, comparatively speaking, four times those of the UK government department.

The Customs was surprised at the number of companies who immediately opted to send data

electronically. According to Mr Marshall, there are 2,670 companies sending their data this way. Given that Customs had expected there to be only 2,000 traders within two years, the system had to be quickly updated.

The abolition of paperwork, meant some consignments were arriving a day early

The picture will change with the implementation of the Customs Freight Business Review, which aims to bring single market-type facilities to trade with non-EC countries, such as America.

But although Customs has wel-

comed the electronic transmission of Intrastats data, some observers argue that it has not really bitten the bullet because it refuses to impose the electronic method on traders.

Since March in Australia, 99.95 per cent of all requests for customs clearance, whether import or export, have had to be made electronically.

The software used has been written by a British software house, R. J. Howell Associates. Bob Howell, managing director, says that the Australian system is expected to handle 38,500 messages per day by next year. Clearance is almost immediate, data transfer is fully audited and confirmation of the message is made by the recipient.

This last point is one that is

missing from the British system. Organisations such as Community Network Systems (CNS), a P & O/Associated Ports company involved in the freight and transportation markets, and one of the networks presently approved for connection to the Customs system, are adding features such as confirmation of message.

Virginia Ainscough, consultant for CNS, says that the company lost about 20 per cent of its network traffic as a result of the single market because much of its work was Customs clearance. Companies are also now filling in their Intrastats themselves, rather than handing it to an agent.

Ms Ainscough says that there is a lot more that could be done with electronically collected data. She cites initiatives such as P & O's Baple project that will electroni-

caly provide the next port of arrival with precise information on what is being carried on a vessel — information that can change up until the very last minute — and where on the vessel it is loaded. The message can be subsequently altered and relayed to the next port.

Another project is Frame, organised by the EC and which aims to track hazardous cargoes by road. The data raised for the purposes of trading could then be used to relay vital information to emergency services in case of an accident.

The beauty of data stored electronically lies in its ability to be re-used. The more companies that can be persuaded to send data electronically — even if it involves some kind of cash-based incentive scheme — the more ways data can be gainfully re-used.



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Companies adapt a new way of talking

Electronic trading is changing shape. Electronic data interchange used to be only between trading partners. Some companies, however, are starting to see that it can also be useful for sending internal information around a company. Some are even tearing up their internal company networks to do this.

The problem with traditional internal company networks is that they are usually developed with proprietary communications standards to link the computers together and with internal company data formats to make the information intelligible to application systems around the network.

That is fine. If the company does not change much. But in a turbulent world, companies are continually selling subsidiaries, merging or being taken over. The computer systems of a new subsidiary often have to be absorbed, expensively and disruptively, into a network.

Conversely, a subsidiary that is sold has to accommodate itself to the communication standards and data formats of its new owners. In these cases, information technology departments spend most of their time wrestling with acquisitions, to try to provide company-wide networks.

Some managers are beginning to think that this is a waste of time and money. They see the EDI format used for electronic trading as a possible answer.

The communications problem can then be taken care of by one of the large EDI service providers — such as AT & T's Easylink, BT's Edinet, IBM's

Electronic trading methods are being used for internal communications

Information Network or INS's Tradanet — which can link any one computer to any other.

The internal data format problem is solved by translating all transmissions around the company into an EDI message standard. Each business unit can retain its own data formats.

About two years ago, the Sears group, which owns Selfridges and the British Shoe Corporation, decided on this route. It chose Edinet to handle all its intra-company transmissions, and standardised on a retail industry's dialect of the international message standard Edifact.

Catherine Marsden, marketing executive for IBM Havant, thinks the same way. Foreseeing radical changes in IBM, she says: "It may be appropriate for an IBM plant to sell to other firms, and operate as an independent company, still supplying IBM without interruption."

With an electronic trading architecture even for internal processes, it means that the business can make fundamental organisational changes quite readily, without the computer systems being a limiting factor.

Consequently, all IBM

plants around the world are moving from internal data formats towards the electronic industry's subset of Edifact for all their "interplant" transactions. IBM's factories at Havant in Hampshire or Greenock in Scotland can appear the same to IBM's procurement as a small supplier of components in Korea. For companies selling their products through dealers, franchises or tied agents, where a dedicated network would be too expensive, electronic trading can save money. Insurance companies, in particular, use AT & T's insurance-industry Exchange service to link to their tied agents.

A new buzz word has been coined by the American Department of Defense to distinguish this new way of working from plain EDI, "electronic commerce". In this, according to Alan Foote, messaging consultant for Logica, all business operations can be seen as a process between a "supplier" of a service and a "customer".

Under this definition, suppliers can be different departments of the same firm or they can be independent trading partners. This view of the business world is particularly attractive to those who believe that all large companies should be broken up into "autonomous business units". It could move the electronic trading industry from a rather eclectic group of specialists, working on the margins of information technology, into the mainstream world of "workgroup" computing.

RICHARD SARSON



Catherine Marsden, the marketing executive for IBM Havant

OPERA page 40

Simon Keenlyside is a youthful Don Giovanni in Sir Peter Hall's Glyndebourne staging

ARTS

ROCK page 41

Old Beatles songs reissued at £25 an album: what happened to Penny Lane?

A scepter'd isle newly discovered

Richard Cork unravels the mysteries of the exquisite Wilton Diptych, recently cleaned and now the focus of a National Gallery exhibition

Ever since the National Gallery acquired the Wilton Diptych from the Earl of Pembroke in 1929, this altarpiece has been cherished as an irresistible example of late medieval art. Even so, fame has not provided answers to the myriad questions aroused by this exquisite panel painting. Who was the consummate artist entrusted with the commission, and what meaning does it convey?

Since Richard II is kneeling in the left half of the diptych, accompanied by his three favourite saints, he probably ordered the altarpiece for himself. But why? An event of supreme significance appears to be celebrated by the heavenly figures clustered in the other panel, and we long to know more about the cause of their jubilation.

Now, in the first of an admirable series called Making & Meaning, the National Gallery attempts to grapple with all these problems. Cleaning the diptych has generated a far fresher

image, and disclosed some fascinating details hitherto hidden from view. Related material, in the form of sculpture, illuminated manuscripts, stained glass and Richard's renowned portrait from Westminster Abbey, set the diptych fully in its context. We learn much about England in the late 1390s, and the king's obsession with the sacred status of monarchy. But the painting itself remains enigmatic, silently refusing to yield all the secrets embedded within its lavish surface.

The painting remains enigmatic, refusing to yield all of its secrets

The first mystery centres on Richard's age. We know, from the Westminster portrait and the tomb effigy he commissioned in 1395 after the death of his wife Anne of Bohemia, that the king sported a beard by the time the diptych was executed. In the left panel, though, he appears clean-shaven and strangely boyish. It might well portray the king in 1377, when he was crowned at the age of ten. The slender figure in the painting certainly looks fresh-faced enough, suggesting that Richard wanted his image to mark the duration of his reign.

His sumptuous robe indicates another layer of meaning. The recurrent gold animals scattered across its jewel-like surface are white harts, Richard's personal emblem. But the broom-cods or "planta genista" surrounding them were the emblem of the French King Charles IV, whose seven-year-old daughter married Richard in 1395. Their presence here proves that the diptych was painted after their wedding.

All the same, the overriding symbolism of the left panel is concerned with Richard's personal hobby-horse: the divine right of kings. His passionate belief in the idea that he was appointed by God is reinforced by the presence of his patron saint, John the Baptist, whose protective arm hangs down behind the king's head and neck.

As for the other two figures, they represent royal saints of England: Edmund and Edward the Confessor. Like the Magi, they gaze in awe towards the sacred mother and child on the right panel, and legitimise Richard's desire to be ushered into Christ's presence.

Instead of moving presumptuously forward, however, the boy-king kneels on hard, arid ground. Although a pearl-studded jewel of the white hart is pinned

to his chest, the hands stretching below are modest rather than ostentatious. For all his worldly magnificence, this is a monarch prepared to acknowledge his subservience to God. And the starkness of the terrain around him makes a humbling contrast with the flower-bedecked fertility of the garden where the hold child presides.

But what exactly does Richard's gesture convey? Neither clasped in prayer nor holding a votive offering, his delicate fingers rise towards the right panel in an almost hesitant way. Is he simply expressing wonder at his privileged ability to view the Virgin and her offspring? Has he just given a present to Christ, or is he waiting to receive one from the child? We do not know, but the white banner held by an angel near Christ bears a red cross symbolic both of the Resurrection and Saint George. The infant arms reach out in a gesture just as ambiguous as Richard's.

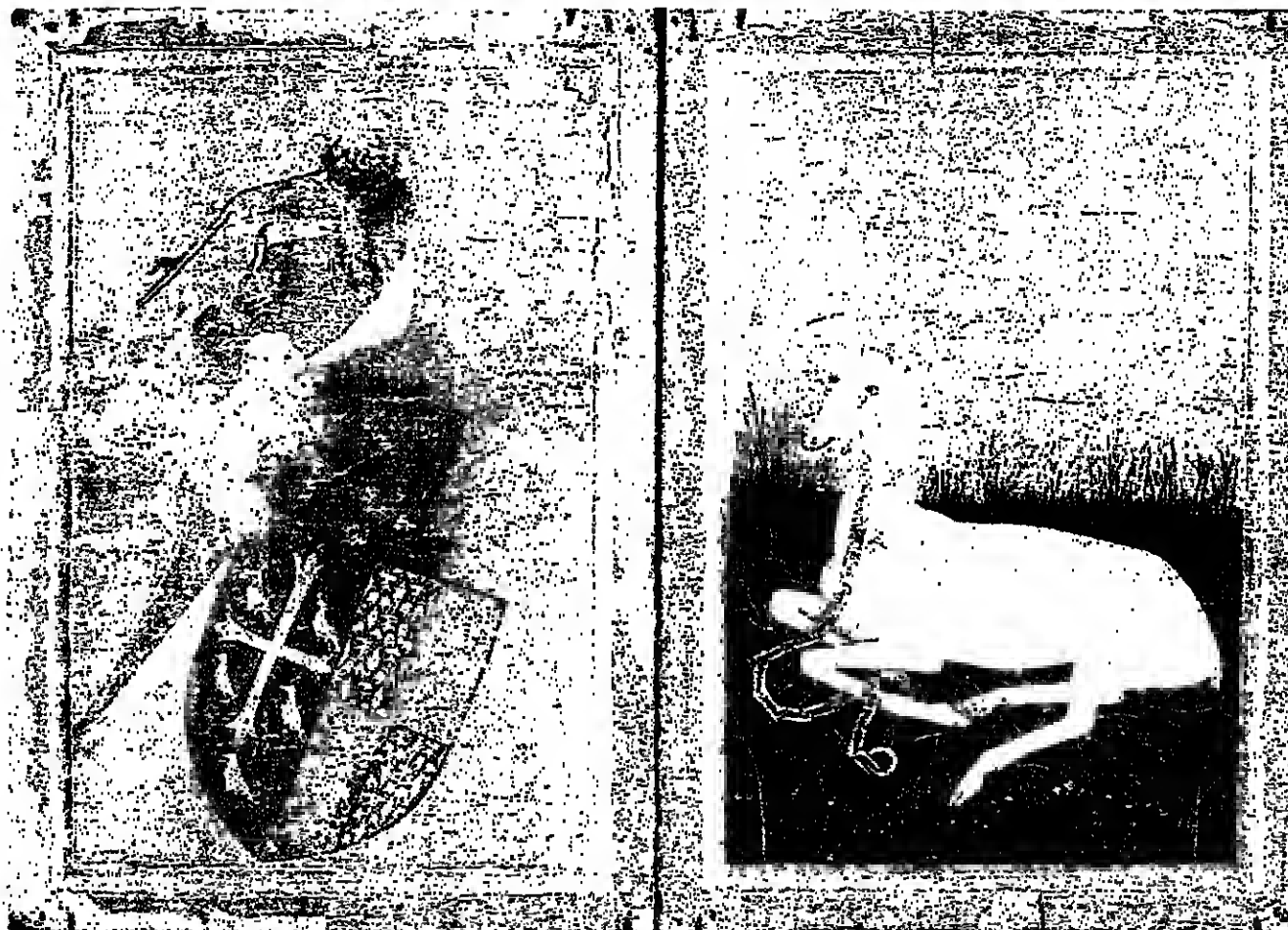
The most exciting discovery made by the recent restoration involves the tiny orb crowning the banner. To the naked eye it looks dark and impenetrable. With the help of an infra-red reflectogram, though, a minuscule painting within the orb has now been revealed. It is a beguiling image, encircled by a silver-leaf sea where a ship floats in full sail, a verdant garden island with a turreted white tower

and trees is detectable. Perhaps it refers to England, anticipating the most famous speech in Shakespeare's *Richard II*, where John of Gaunt rhapsodises about "this scepter'd isle... this little world: This precious stone set in the silver sea". Apart from raising the possibility that Shakespeare derived his imagery from the Wilton Diptych itself, the orb picture suggests that Richard wanted his kingdom to share the divinity he enjoyed. It has, after all, entered the space inhabited by Christ, and the rest of this panel offers an enchanting vision of the paradise savoured by those fortunate enough to gain entry.

On grass strewn with roses, irises, daisies and even a group of piercingly observed mushrooms, no fewer than 11 petal-crowned angels crowd around the holy pair. In a startlingly secular manner, they all wear Richard's hart emblem on their radiant ultramarine dresses. And this exuberant demonstration of their link with the king is matched by the extraordinary informality of their poses.

Far from standing with dutiful stiffness beside the mother and child, some rest their hands on neighbouring shoulders as a mark of affection. One slips a hand through the arm of her companion, who responds by tenderly extending attenuated fingers towards her friend's pale skin. The frizzy blonde angel kneeling so prominently in the foreground even dares to touch the Virgin's garment.

Most unusual of all is the pose adopted by the infant. In a Book of Hours miniature produced around the same time as the diptych, a kneeling Duc de Berry is presented by two saints to the Virgin and Child. The figures' positions and style are close to the National Gallery painting, but the divine pair are enthroned with lofty grandeur and the boy concentrates on



The Wilton Diptych, in the National Gallery. Within a few years of its completion, in the late 1390s, Richard II (kneeling, top left) had been murdered. All his hopes about divine benediction terminated, at the age of 32, in a premature grave

feeding at his mother's breast. In the diptych, though, the Virgin blithely stands on the grass and relishes the proximity of her friendly angels.

If the mystery surrounding the diptych remains tantalising, it also gives us the licence to discover an unexpectedly poignant side to the painting. For Christ's halo contains a crown of thorns and even three nails, painful harbingers of his Passion. They are pointedly juxtaposed with the flowers capping the angels' heads, and make us alert to other signs of suffering in the panels. The upturned cut stems of the roses at the Virgin's feet sound another ominous note, while hindsight prompts us to find an unintended frailty in Richard as well.

His youthfulness makes him appear vulnerable, and within a few years of the diptych's completion he had been deposed and murdered. All his elevated hopes about divine benediction terminated, at the age of 32, in a premature grave. Viewed in this light, the monarch's hands take on a prophetic significance as they stretch out, eager but empty, for the protection just beyond his reach.

Making & Meaning: The Wilton Diptych is at the National Gallery (071-389 1773) until Dec 12

OLD MASTER DRAWINGS FROM CHATSWORTH: The cream of the Duke of Devonshire's drawing collection at Chatsworth is well known, but this large show (220 works) digs out some very little known examples as well as the standard Rembrandts, Leonardos, Raphaels, Rubens and Titians. There are also some works recently identified by Michael Jaffe and never before seen in public. Hard to choose highlights, but the wonderful Dürers and Holbeins and the group of views on the Amstel by Rembrandt, acquired in 1724, are a good place to start. British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (071-636 1555) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm, until January 9.

PAUL CITRON AND ERWIN BLUMENFELD: Two famous interwar photographers who have been left a

little on one side by the tide of history are here revived and reassessed. Paul Citroen is usually remembered in the context of the Bauhaus, but he was early involved in Dadaist collage and was also on occasion a brilliant portrait photographer. Erwin Blumenfeld is remembered as a portraitist but he also did a lot of experimental, Dada-influenced work in the early Twenties, and constantly hymned the female body. Both artists loved Charlie Chaplin and the surreal implications of shop-window dummies. Marlborough Fine Art, Albemarle Street, London W1 (071-629 5161). Mon-Fri, 10am-5.30pm, Sat, 10am-12.30pm, until Oct 15.

SOUTH LONDON GALLERY: 65 Peckham Road, London SE5 (071-703 6120). Tues-Fri, 10am-6pm, Thurs, 11am-7pm, Sat and Sun, 2-6pm, until Oct 31.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

Nureyev auction delayed

ART MARKET DIARY

WIDELY predicted as the sale of the current season, the £4 million Rudolf Nureyev auction has been postponed due to a squabble between his relations and the two foundations in his name. "Some family members have raised certain questions," said Mark Richter, secretary of the Nureyev Dance Foundation in Switzerland. "We hope it will go ahead next year."

Instead of looking forward to a series of lavish black-tie "gala" sales in London and New York at Christmas and the New Year, fans and free-loaders will have to wait until at least December 1994 to see the extravagant furniture, costumes and paintings off the block. Judging from the weary tone in Richter's voice, they may even have to wait for ever.

THE most memorable work at the 20th century British Art Fair, just opened at the Royal College of Art in London, is a painting of the famous Lloyds Insurance building in the City by one Alfred Daniels. Instead of being a tribute to our great architect Richard Rogers, however, the facade tilts dangerously like the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Before it are four threadbare buskers in bowler hats. "As you can see, the characters are obviously ex-Lloyds names," says the dealer Manya Igel, who gave explicit instructions for the composition and posed for the one who is reduced to his underpants. "I commissioned it because I was a name, and I'm very fed up with writing cheques," he added. The painting is priced at £1,600, but so great is the interest in the City, that Igel is also bringing out a £50 print of the same subject.

Wright or wrong

AN INTRIGUING test-case could start in Harrogate next week. At issue is the future of some 545 paintings seized by local police in the winter of 1991 from the home of Gordon Wright, a Yorkshire art dealer. Subsequently, Wright died in a suicide pact with his wife. The police allege that many of the paintings — 19th and 20th century English landscapes by lesser names such as Boddington and Bamber — had been doctored or faked. As a result, they refuse to give them back. Ian McCombie, the Wright family's solicitor, insists that they are his clients' property, and is taking action to retrieve them from the police store. If he wins, the art market can look forward to a flood of Wright's erstwhile stock, which will be sold on behalf of four medical charities, including the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council and the British Empire Cancer Campaign for Research. Together they could receive an estimated £250,000.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale at the British premiere of Larry Kramer's new play about the victims of Aids

More in sorrow than anger

When we last met the writer and gay activist Ned Weeks, it was at the end of Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*, and he was not a happy man. He had just lost his lover, and he was serious one of his 40-year-old life, to Aids. He had also been checked out of the health crisis centre he himself had set up,

having offended his colleagues by suggesting, first, that they should fight more forcefully for public attention, second, they should renounce casual sex. The future did not look bright, either for him or for victims of the great plague.

That was in 1985, the year *The Normal Heart* was first performed in New York, or maybe 1986, when it moved to the Royal Court with Martin Sheen as the feisty hero. Now it is time for a sequel which shows that in most ways things have become even worse: the Washington hospital in which Kramer's *The Destiny of Me* is set ("the premier research facility in the entire world") seems to be perpetually besieged by raging demon-

The Destiny of Me Leicester Haymarket

strators, suggesting that homosexuals have acquired the aggression and impatience he wanted. But a voice from the wings tells us that the epidemic has killed a total of 300,000, and a glance at the stage indicates that Ned himself is likely to join them before long. There he is, in the bed on the left of the great white ward Christopher Woods has built on the Leicester Haymarket stage. He has been diagnosed HIV positive, and Simon Callow, the excellent actor now playing him, is half-heartedly, half-wearily, undergoing an experimental treatment. We



Simon Callow playing the central role of Ned

are clearly supposed still to think him turbulent and difficult, for he directs the odd insult at Peter Woodward, playing the conscientious doctor trying to cure him, and

talks of Aids itself as avoidable genocide. But the bite has left his words, and his conflict with the establishment has become a sort of reflexive tic. *The Destiny of Me* may be a sequel to *The Normal Heart*, but it has little of that play's power to scorch and sear.

That will be a relief to those who find even good polemic not to their taste, but it creates a dramatic problem, for what Kramer offers instead is mostly troubled reminiscence. While an irked nurse (Patti Boulaye) bustles round Ned's bed, figures from his formative past come onstage: James Kennedy, playing his younger self, Jason Durr as the elder brother he adores; Ann Mitch-

ell as the smothering mother who encourages him to be "different" while failing to recognise what that difference is; Gary Waldhorn as the violent, philistine father who wishes he had been aborted.

Thus do the battling tensions of *Normal Heart* give way to a portrait of a gay man learning to accept himself. That brings with it fine, feeling scenes — Ned confronting the brother who forces psychoanalysis on him, Ned at his father's deathbed — but also more loss of energy than seems inevitable.

If *The Destiny of Me* is to succeed in London, as is the hope, it needs a smaller stage, a more intimate theatre and a more concentrated feel. That means Kramer must cut the play's 210-odd minutes and Ned, who also directs, try to tighten his production. Ned may be doomed, but isn't his testament worth saving?

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LONDON

GLYNDEBOURNE TOURING
Opera: The company's 25th anniversary celebrations continue with Peter Hall's 1977 production of *Don Giovanni*. Simon Keenlyside makes his GTO debut as Mozart's unassuming seducer. French conductor Louis Langrée makes his UK debut. See review, right.
Sedley's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 011-278 9919. Tonight, 7.30pm. £10-15. 15-20. 20-25. 25-30. 30-35. 35-40. 40-45. 45-50. 50-55. 55-60. 60-65. 65-70. 70-75. 75-80. 80-85. 85-90. 90-95. 95-100. 100-105. 105-110. 110-115. 115-120. 120-125. 125-130. 130-135. 135-140. 140-145. 145-150. 150-155. 155-160. 160-165. 165-170. 170-175. 175-180. 180-185. 185-190. 190-195. 195-200. 200-205. 205-210. 210-215. 215-220. 220-225. 225-230. 230-235. 235-240. 240-245. 245-250. 250-255. 255-260. 260-265. 265-270. 270-275. 275-280. 280-285. 285-290. 290-295. 295-300. 300-305. 305-310. 310-315. 315-320. 320-325. 325-330. 330-335. 335-340. 340-345. 345-350. 350-355. 355-360. 360-365. 365-370. 370-375. 375-380. 380-385. 385-390. 390-395. 395-400. 400-405. 405-410. 410-415. 415-420. 420-425. 425-430. 430-435. 435-440. 440-445. 445-450. 450-455. 455-460. 460-465. 465-470. 470-475. 475-480. 480-485. 485-490. 490-495. 495-500. 500-505. 505-510. 510-515. 515-520. 520-525. 525-530. 530-535. 535-540. 540-545. 545-550. 550-555. 555-560. 560-565. 565-570. 570-575. 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1105-1110. 1110-1115. 1115-1120. 1120-1125. 1125-1130. 1130-1135. 1135-1140. 1140-1145. 1145-1150. 1150-1155. 1155-1160. 1160-1165. 1165-1170. 1170-1175. 1175-1180. 1180-1185. 1185-1190. 1190-1195. 1195-1200. 1200-1205. 1205-1210. 1210-1215. 1215-1220. 1220-1225. 1225-1230. 1230-1235. 1235-1240. 1240-1245. 1245-1250. 1250-1255. 1255-1260. 1260-1265. 1265-1270. 1270-1275. 1275-1280. 1280-1285. 1285-1290. 1290-1295. 1295-1300. 1300-1305. 1305-1310. 1310-1315. 1315-1320. 1320-1325. 1325-1330. 1330-1335. 1335-1340. 1340-1345. 1345-1350. 1350-1355. 1355-1360. 1360-1365. 1365-1370. 1370-1375. 1375-1380. 1380-1385. 1385-1390. 1390-1395. 1395-1400. 1400-1405. 1405-1410. 1410-1415. 1415-1420. 1420-1425. 1425-1430. 1430-1435. 1435-1440. 1440-1445. 1445-1450. 1450-1455. 1455-1460. 1460-1465. 1465-1470. 1470-1475. 1475-1480. 1480-1485. 1485-1490. 1490-1495. 1495-1500. 1500-1505. 1505-1510. 1510-1515. 1515-1520. 1520-1525. 1525-1530. 1530-1535. 1535-1540. 1540-1545. 1545-1550. 1550-1555. 1555-1560. 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5655-5660. 5660-5665. 5665-5670. 5670-5675. 5675-5680. 5680-5685. 5685-5690. 5690-5695. 5695-5700. 5700-5705.

ROCK ON FRIDAY: Compact discs, expansive prices ... jaw-jaw about pop wars ... Andrew Weatherall sells his soul

John, Paul, George, Ringo and greed

NEW ALBUMS: The latest exercise in repackaging the Beatles is a masterpiece of record company over-pricing, says an angry David Sinclair

THE BEATLES
1962-1966
(Apple/EMI 7 97036)
1967-1970
(Apple/EMI 7 97039)
IT WAS Derek Taylor, the Beatles' former press officer, who this week underlined the absurdity which attaches to the enduring popularity of the world's best-known group. Wheeled in to speak on the BBC's Greater London Radio, which spent the whole of Monday celebrating the music of the Beatles, Taylor pointed out that his reminiscences could reasonably be compared to those of a pundit in the heyday of the Beatles enthusing about an act that was popular circa 1933. Beatlemania may seem like yesterday to baby boomers, but it really was a long time ago.

Even so, the release for the first time on CD of these two greatest hits collections has excited rock fans of a certain vintage. First issued in 1973 and popularly known, because of the predominant colours of their covers, as the Red and the Blue albums, they encompass an unrepeatable legacy of hit singles, most of which were not included on the group's albums.

As with the rest of the Beatles' back catalogue, all of which has now been transferred to CD, the Red and Blue albums have been digitally remastered to the most exacting of standards and scrupulously re-presented in the image of the original albums. The track listing remains as before, comprising all the Beatles singles, together with a few key album tracks, presented in chronological order.

Thus, 1962-1966 goes from the innocent, Merseybeat pop of "Love Me Do", "Please, Please Me" and "From Me To You", to the neo-classical splendour of "Eleanor Rigby" and the flowery nonsense of "Yellow Submarine". Then 1967-1970 picks up the story at the stoned pinnacle of "Strawberry Fields Forever" and "Penny Lane" and carries through to the bittersweet end of "Let It Be" and "The Long And Winding Road".

While not in any way seeking to detract from their

musical merits, it seems to me that the peculiarly everlasting magic of the Beatles is largely to do with timing. They were the first "proper" pop group and evolved into the first "serious" rock group. These songs became ingrained, willy nilly, on the psyche of a generation and, frankly, the majority of people who were exposed to the Beatles in their prime gave little thought as to why or even whether they liked them or not. So all-pervasive was their influence that not to like the Beatles on some fundamental level was not to like popular music itself.

At the time, the brilliance of these songs was not so much discovered or analysed as universally presumed, and their appeal has, likewise, become an article of faith.

We have become accustomed to the enhanced sound quality of CD, and there is, of course, a welcome and significant improvement in the audio fidelity of these ancient recordings. Many instrumental features, such as Harrison's twangy guitar motif behind the vocals in "I Wanna Hold Your Hand", become plainly audible for the first time. The handclaps on "Eight Days A Week" sound like thunder and we discover that the bridging riff in "Day Tripper" was really a tambourine solo.

But while allowing for such benefits and accepting that this is a truly essential pair of albums, the price tag of about £25 each is utterly scandalous. The Red album, which runs for slightly longer than 60 minutes, could easily have been accommodated on one disc (a single CD can hold about 75 minutes of music). Pressing the album on two discs and then packaging it in an old-fashioned double-CD box (modern double-CD boxes are only fractionally bigger than a single box), is taking the notion of preserving the "integrity" of the original presentation to ludicrous and wasteful extremes. To then charge the full, double-album price is just plain cynical.

When you consider that every single song has already reaped dividends hugely in excess of its original produc-



Paul McCartney, John Lennon, Ringo Starr and George Harrison face the television cameras back in the halcyon mid-1960s days of fabdom

tion costs and any conceivable marketing overheads, it begins to look as if greed has succeeded where time has failed, in tarnishing a golden reputation.

CAPERCILLIE
Secret People
(Survival/BMG 74321 16274)
CONTINUING a unique balancing act between the ancient Gaelic folk of their Scottish heritage and the modern nuances of radio-friendly rock, Capercillie's *Secret People* is the latest in a line of meticulously researched and crafted collections.

There is, however, rather less blending of the two extremes than on previous outings, and the songs tend to fall into one of two distinct camps. Some, such as "An Eala Bhan", a delicately lilting ballad, and "The Whinny Hills Jigs", an arrangement of three Scottish-Irish jigs in a jaunty 8/9 time, are cast firmly in the traditional mould. The Gaelic lyrics, sung with compelling grace by Karen Matheson, soar sadly and sweetly above the sounds of fiddle, bodhran, whistle and accordion.

Others, such as "Grace And Pride" and "Crime Of Passion", are written and arranged in a more con-

temporary vein. Less engaging than their authentic-sounding companions, these numbers are supplied with English words, a hummable tune and a smooth keyboard gloss that all but conceals the group's deep folk roots.

The musicians play with skill and conviction and Matheson's voice is a delight throughout. But it does not take a purist to sense the lure of mainstream success metaphorically tugging at the artistic sleeves of this album.

BUFFALO TOM
Big Red Letter Day
(Beggars Banquet BQ 142)
QUESTIONABLY described, on occasion, as grunge's answer to Bryan Adams, Buffalo Tom is the Boston trio featuring the passionate vocals and crunching guitar sound of Bill Janovitz. They come across loud and chunky, but never miss a trick when it comes to harmony choruses or a good old-fashioned descending chord sequence.

Hard-rocking and heart-tugging in roughly equal measure, their fourth album was produced by the Robb brothers (who wrought their distinctive magic on Lemonheads' breakthrough album, *It's A Shame About Ray*). Combin-

ing ballads like "I'm Allowed" and "Would Not Be Denied" with the punky drive of songs like "Tree House" and "Sodajerker", this is a "real" rock album with a distinctly populist savvy.

JAMES

Laid
(Fontana 514943)
IMAGINE Hothouse Flowers without the soul, Deacon Blue without the personality and U2 without the songs, and you are getting close to the mystically content-free charm of *Laid*, the latest offering from the veteran Mancunians.

Thanks in no small part to Brian Eno's production, it is still a considerably more appealing prospect than last year's *Seven*. There are some lovely instrumental textures — the glistering slide guitar motif at the start of "P.S.", the deep, sensual twang of "Say Something", the acoustic doodling in "One Of Three".

But Tim Booth's self-consciously stylised vocals convey little meaning and less emotion, and for all their echoey atmospherics, numbers like "Dream Thru" and "Everybody Knows" are little more than extended introductions in search of a song.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

- 1 Bat Out Of Hell II — Back Into Hell Meat Loaf (Virgin)
- 2 In Utero Nirvana (Geffen)
- 3 1962-1966 The Beatles (Apple)
- 4 1967-1970 The Beatles (Apple)
- 5 Elements — The Best Of Mike Oldfield Mike Oldfield (Virgin)
- 6 Wild Wood Paul Weller (Gut Discs)
- 7 The Hits 2 Prince (Paisley Park)
- 8 The Hits 1 Prince (Paisley Park)
- 9 The Hits/The B-Sides Prince (Paisley Park)
- 10 Promises And Lies UB40 (DEP International)

Compiled by MHB

SEVEN DAYS

OUT & ABOUT NEXT WEEK

BOOK: *Blues on CD* by Charles Shaar Murray (Kyle Cathie, £10.99) is the latest in an indispensable series of consumer guides to the compact disc jungle (other titles currently available: *Rock, Jazz, Opera*). With his usual wit and authority, Murray steers a course through 70 years of recorded blues. Apparently the first record to begin "Woke up this morning" was Bessie Smith's "Empty Bed Blues", recorded in 1928.

SINGLES: "I wanna put a bullet in society's head," sing Beggars I.T.A. on their second single "Oxygen" (Parlophone), released on Monday. Hardly the voice of reason, but a hard-driving track in a fine anti-rock tradition stretching back to the Clash. Moving into retro-overdrive with their "Grow Your Own" EP (Acid Jazz) are Mother Earth, the acid jazz movement's answer to Lenny Kravitz. Superfly wah-wah guitars, croaky 1970s soul vocals and a special fluff-on-the-needle production ensure period-piece nirvana. Four tracks, including a rocking instrumental version of the Small Faces "Almost Grown".

LIVE RECORDING: See your own face in the crowd at a live recording of *The Beat on TV*. Special 30-minute sets will be performed by James, the Wonder Stuff, Verve and Swervedriver at New London Astoria, London WC2 (071-434 0403) Tuesday, 7pm, £12.

TELEVISION: TAT (LWT) features an utterly fab line-up of Grant Lee Buffalo, Verve and Mother Earth, but goes out at the seriously anti-social time of 3am tomorrow (Saturday) morning. Set the video.

NEW WAVES

The insider's guide to the Next Big Thing

Even though he began his career as a disc-jockey, then took the inevitable step into remixing, Andrew Weatherall's strong opinions and hunger for musical stimulus could only lead in one direction. After making his mark as a producer for Primal Scream and on this month's beatific *One Dove* album, Weatherall is now venturing out as an artist.

Sabres of Paradise, a trio of studio creators for whom Weatherall does the talking, have produced an uncompromising collection of tracks for Sheffield's Warp label. Aware of the need for music to be as amusing as well as seriously life-enhancing, Weatherall has projected himself into his alter-ego of Lord Sabre in order to infuse image and identity into recordings whose opacity is accentuated by the lack of verbal messages.

The story of Lord Sabre describes a Faustian pact to deliver the rebellious blood of Britain's youth cults to his benefactor. But today's splintered youth cults make Sabre's task impossible, and his only solution lies with creating a new, unified youth movement. This promotional tale smacks of Malcolm McLaren's theories, a link forged, perhaps, when Weatherall's life was changed by the Sex Pistols.

Although partial to extended, spacious mixes which transform their original source material into contemplative landscapes of echo, Weatherall has a punkish edge. "Vlock Factory" on the forthcoming album could be Sheffield industrial music re-made for the 1990s — an ominous 15-minute instrumental overlaid with the eerie tones of a bowed saw. Weatherall may never adorn the front cover of pop glossies, but his spirit is sorely needed in the record business.

DAVID TOOP

Amid all the brouhaha of the four-day "In The City" music business conference held in Manchester earlier this month, some of the most cogent comments came, went and were studiously ignored. "Maybe the record industry's days are past," one moderator muses as the panel discussion on interactive media drew to a close. For publicist Max Clifford, there had never been much to it anyway, other than a lucrative source of employment.

Much was said about corruption and malpractice after Peter Waterman's opening address, during which he accused unnamed record companies of chart-rigging and other short-term marketing strategies. Like many other elder statesmen of the business, producer and label owner Waterman believes in talent and a love of music, which is presumably why he launched the singing careers of Kylie and Jason.

In a business that regards market research as an eccentricity and inter-departmental communication as virtually a crime, "In The City" afforded the opportunity for concentrated exposure to a host of unfamiliar theories, prejudices, grudges and ailments. Power-mad deal-makers and luckless drones could sit together in the conference room of a Holiday Inn and discover why Britain refuses to take Spanish rock seriously, or why musicians are worried by triangular sandwiches.

ON *Before and After*, his recent solo album, there is a song called "Strangeness and Charm". Tim Finn has both qualities in abundance. At his most spiritual, he is Robbie Robertson, but with a sense of irony. At his most pop-conscious, he is Steve Winwood, but with something to say.

Most of the time, though, he is not quite like anyone else you can think of. During a career that has encompassed the leadership of the band Split Enz and a spell alongside brother Neil in Crowded House, his music has benefited from the sense of his being an original spirit adapting himself to familiar structures.

Finn's special skill as a writer is his ability to approach commonplace situations from a new and revealing angle, then gift-wrap the lyric in a seductive melody and compelling arrangement.



Jonathan King is offering his services as a hit-picker

Whither pop — or will it wither?

A four-day conference found little to cheer about tomorrow's world

With the industry shell-shocked by recession, technological changes, global shifts and the demise of Britain as a market leader in pop, many panel discussions groped for clues on how to survive into the next century. If only there could be less marketing, fewer accountants and lawyers, fewer records, more songs and more fame-hungry musicians prepared to tread the boards and learn some chords, then Britannia could rule the waves once more.

The first celebrity interview-ee was Jonathan King. As ever, King's repartee was rich in infuriatingly entertaining

anecdotes and self-denigrating egomania. But almost alone among the delegates, he expressed a fierce passion for superlative pop records of all styles and eras. Untroubled by the irrelevant issue of whether a band is a studio creation or good in a rock club, King advised us on the delicate problem of how to present a bad Cilla Black single on *Top of the Pops* and relentlessly plugged his new venture, *The Tip Sheet*. This is an expensive weekly subscription list of 60s on potentially successful tracks. With some executives and producers admitting they had no understanding of teenagers' tastes and motivations, somebody probably needs to point them in the direction of decent new records.

As a panelist on Room At The Top, a discussion devoted to multimedia, frequently cited as the future salvation of the industry, I found myself dispirited. Confusion surrounds this new medium and very few interactive discs are currently available to the public. Yet some of the men who control the purse-strings seem determined to impose their own limited view of how it should develop.

A subsequent discussion on how to carve up the far-distant profits of interactive media was put into perspective when a straw poll revealed that only one person in the crowded room owned the hardware to play interactive discs.

DAVID TOOP

CONCERT

Spotlight on charm

Tim Finn
Forum, NWS

"Hit the Ground Running", his current single, is a good case in point. Passive consumption might leave you with little more than a vague impression of blue skies and an open road; it is classic

music-to-drive-to. But in fact it is about Aids.

Opening this only London date in a short British tour with a strong version of the song, Finn cut a dash in the sort of artfully assembled outfit associated with the creative directors of advertising agencies. However, his body language, suggestive of the actor Robin Williams impersonating mid-period Mick Jagger, cancelled any suspicions of latent lounge lizardry. And, in fine voice against the backing of a sympathetic five-piece band, he went on to favour good and sometimes excellent new material ("Many's the Time", "Persuasion", "In Your Sway") above older favourites — although "Six Months in a Leaky Boat" made a welcome appearance late in the set.

ALAN JACKSON

"SIMPLY THE BEST"

— SUNDAY MIRROR

"The performances are excellent"

— BARRY NORMAN, EDM 93

"Audiences will cheer...hip and compelling"

— EMPIRE MAGAZINE

"A touching, stomping, strutting belter of a movie"

— THE SUN

"Angela Bassett's performance has oscar nomination written all over it"

— THE GUARDIAN

"Vibrant and raunchy"

— SUNDAY EXPRESS

"Spine-tingling passion — don't miss it!"

— NEWS OF THE WORLD

"It would be a pity if the film's exposure remained restricted to fans of Tina Turner"

— DAILY TELEGRAPH

What's boys got to do with it

ANGELA BASSETT LAURENCE FISHBURNE PAT LEWIS STANLEY CLARKE STEPHEN ALTMAN
MARC ANDERSON ROGER DAVES MARIO MONTE PAUL TAYLOR NUT LORR
DUNCAN CRAWFORD BARRY KOST SHEN GIBSON

NOW IN THE WEST END
ACROSS THE COUNTRY FROM OCTOBER 8th

Months of preparation undermined as cook drops out at last minute

Replacement spices seafaring menu

Lawrie Smith, skipper

of Fortuna, looks

ahead to the Whitbread

Round the World Race

WE have spent the past nine months studying tank and wind-tunnel data, refining sail shapes and analysing weather patterns to get our maxi yacht, Fortuna, ready for the start tomorrow of the Whitbread Round the World Race. Nothing has been spared in terms of money or resources to get the boat and crew into top shape, but nothing could have prepared us for a last-minute crisis like the loss of our cook, Richard Gibson.

A veteran from the Irish challenger, NCB, four years ago, he was an experienced hand on the boat, but the doctors will not sign him off for the voyage and the thought of our medic, Paul Standbridge, having to deal with a strangled hernia was too much to contemplate.

To fill the vacancy, we have plucked Andrew Nash, a 29-year-old Zimbabwean chef, from one of the best restaurants in Lymington. There are no doubts about his culinary skills, but there is a question mark over his ability to function effectively when the going gets rough. He has sailed on a boat only twice before, and there will be no escape for 5,500 miles if he falls seasick.

We have a back-up plan, but are keeping it quiet from Russell Pickthall, our sail maker and one-time cordobian chef.

Nash's inclusion in the team makes Fortuna one of the most international crews in the fleet, with the United States, Australia, Britain, Ireland, Holland, New Zealand and Spain represented.

The boat has been modified since the Fastnet Race. We have fitted a deeper keel and changed the lead bulb to improve her windward performance. A ton of lead has been taken out of the hull and we have added more sail area.



Nash cleans up his galley on board Fortuna before the Whitbread Round the World Race after answering a late call for a cook.

She's a five-year-old design that is wider and heavier than our rivals and needs more horsepower to make her competitive, but we think we will be up with the pace.

I see our toughest competition coming from Grant Dalton's New Zealand Endeavour, one of three Bruce Farr designs. Her mizzenmast is more than a metre higher than that stepped on Daniel Malle's La Poste and Pierre

Fehlmann's similar-sized maxi, Merit Cup. Fortuna's mizzen, by comparison, is three metres higher than Endeavour's, which gives us a considerable advantage over all of them in terms of sail area.

To be competitive, we need to have all that sail area set, and not be reefed down. That means an optimum wind speed of six to 20 knots, which we are likely to get for much

of the Atlantic legs at least.

I do not believe the Whitbread 60's will beat the maxis, which are around \$5f, because, unlike everyone's perception of Roaring Forties weather, much of this race is through light winds when the maxis have a significant advantage.

There is little to divide the Whitbread 60s because all are similar in design and have

experienced crews. One that has impressed me is Ross Field's Yamaha, the latest of the Farr designs. The former Steinlager watch leader has put together one of the most experienced crews in the fleet and, having covered more than 15,000 miles in these new designs, is one of the best prepared.

Others to watch are Winston, skippered by Dennis Corner, Brad Butterworth

and Chris Dickson's Tokio, and Javier de la Gandara's Spanish entry, Galicia 93 Pescanova, which won the Fastnet Race.

Lawrie Smith, 37, won an Olympic yachting bronze medal last year. He has twice been an America's Cup skipper and this will be his third Whitbread race. He will be writing exclusively for The Times on the race.

Jacobs in line to make \$1m title challenge

By SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

GARY Jacobs, the European welterweight champion from Glasgow, is in line for a title bout with Pernell Whitaker, the World Boxing Council welterweight champion. Jacobs could receive around \$1 million and the bout could take place as early as November.

Mickey Duff, Jacobs' manager, said yesterday that Dan Duva, Whitaker's manager, had said that the bout could take place if talks about a rematch between Whitaker and Julio Cesar Chavez break down. Whitaker recently met the great Mexican, but did not get the verdict, the match being declared a draw.

"Whitaker's people's first priority is a rematch with Chavez," Duff said, "because that is a \$20 million fight. If that comes about, then I've got to sit in a queue. If that doesn't come about, and I'm given to understand there is a lot of reluctance on the part of Chavez's people to take the match, Dan said he would seriously consider us. It is the sort of fight in which Gary could wind up with \$1 million."

"Whitaker will find Jacobs far more awkward than he found Chavez because it's two southpaws and styles make fights."

Jacobs relished the idea of meeting the man who has ended Chavez's winning record. "I would be his undoing," Jacobs said. "I need things to get up for and I'd get up for that." Jacobs, who had no trouble stopping Daniel Bichieri, his French challenger, in five rounds at Wembley Grand Hall on Wednesday, could box again on October 16 in Paris.

Colin McMillan yesterday reluctantly consented to go to Wales in his attempt to regain the World Boxing Organisation featherweight title. McMillan agreed to meet Steve Robinson, the champion, at the Cardiff Ice Ring on October 23, only half an hour before yesterday's announcement. He wanted home advantage in London.

It will be his first bout since losing the title to Ruben Palacio, of Colombia a year ago.

Henry Akimwande, thwarted in his attempt to defend his European heavyweight title, against Alexander Miroshnichenko, of the CIS, will defend his Commonwealth crown against Clifton Mitchell, who is relatively inexperienced but unbeaten, at the Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre on October 6. Miroshnichenko was unable to obtain travel documents.

Bull found guilty of bringing game into disrepute

By CHRIS MOORE

STEVE Bull, the Wolverhampton Wanderers forward, was yesterday given a three-match suspension from October 4 after being found guilty by the Football Association of bringing the game into disrepute.

The former England international had been charged with misconduct over an incident in a pre-season game at Wrexham in which the Welsh club's defender, Mel Pejie, suffered a fractured cheekbone, chipped teeth and concussion.

Bull will miss the Coca-Cola Cup second-round second-leg tie with Swindon Town and the first division games against Nottingham Forest and Crystal Palace, although last night Wolverhampton were still weighing up their right of appeal.

Keith Pearson, the club secretary who is also a Molineux director, said: "We had a fair hearing, but are concerned and disappointed at the verdict. We are still of the opinion it was an accidental clash."

Bull left the hearing, at which FA officials studied a video recording of the incident, without comment, but the club's manager, Graham Turner, said: "There was no malice whatsoever, there were no preconceived ideas, and no way he was trying to injure the player. We are a little disappointed with the outcome."

Pejie said: "It's a shame it has come to this, but I feel the verdict has vindicated our action."

Tommy Wright, Newcastle United's Northern Ireland goalkeeper, was last night in the process of completing a £450,000 move to Nottingham Forest. The deal takes Frank Clark's spending as Forest manager since succeeding Brian Clough to over £5 million. Wright is likely to make his debut, in place of Mark Crossley, in Forest's first division game at Bolton on Saturday.

Aston Villa yesterday signed a £1 million shirt-sponsorship deal for the next two years with Miller, the yoghurt makers. Villa will wear the Miller name on their strip for the first time in the FA Cup Premiership game at Oldham Athletic tomorrow.

The Football League yesterday confirmed it may investigate Manchester United's decision to field seven reserves in their 2-1 Coca-Cola Cup defeat against Stoke City on Wednesday. Parker was injured, but United chose to leave out Keane, Giggs, Cantona, Ince, Bruce and Sharpe.

Conner relishing prospect of fresh challenge

By BARRY PICKTHALL

DENNIS Conner and Peter Blake, two of the great names in yachting, strode into Southampton yesterday to run the rule over the competition for this winter's Whitbread Round the World Race.

Blake, the skipper who took the New Zealand ketch, Steinlager II, to victory in the last race three years ago, has been through it all too many times to be fazed by the air of excitement around the dockside. After all, he has competed on five occasions.

However, for Conner, a veteran of six America's Cup campaigns, the

voyage ahead will be a new experience. "The boats are wet and uncomfortable, but they are fast and powerful, particularly when racing with their ballast tanks full," said the man who will skipper the United States entry, Winston, on at least two legs of the 33,000-mile race.

"I decided to do this race because the competition was very interesting and I had the chance to sail a level class of boat against some of the best sailors in the world."

Blake, in Southampton to endorse Murray Ross, a former crew-mate who is now skipper of the joint New Zealand-Japanese entry, Yamaha, took a more sanguine view of it all.

"Looking around the dockside, it is easy to concentrate on the technology and forget about the harsh conditions that lie ahead in the Southern Ocean," he said.

"Everyone says that the adventure has gone out of the race, but anyone who competes in the Whitbread will have changed when they come back, changed for the better."

"This race tests people to the ultimate. When they finish the second leg, they will believe that they have endured the worst moments of their life, but later they will also remember some of those were the best times of their lives. That is what the Whitbread is all

about. If it was easy, they wouldn't do it. This Whitbread is going to be one of the tightest, hard-fought races of all," he predicted.

On the dockside, there was no sign of the customs officers that creditors of Nance Frank's US Women's Challenge team had threatened to call in to arrest her yacht for non-payment of bills. But sailmakers were rushing about after the international jury gave Chris Dickson leave to appeal against the decision last week to ban the novel gem-makers on his yacht, Tokio.

While his appeal was being heard last night, rival syndicates were rushing out copies of this reading

sail which measures as a spinnaker but acts as a gennoa. "If the committee agrees to the sail, then they are starting an arms race that the Whitbread 60 class was brought in to avoid," said a spokesman for Conner's entry.

"It will be OK for us. We can make these sail overnight, but poorer syndicates, like Matthew Humphries' Dolphin & Youth Challenge and the US Women's Challenge, cannot afford them."

Today, Humphries is expected to announce a major sponsor for his cash-strapped British challenger, which should strengthen competitiveness on later legs of the race.

FOR THE RECORD

<h2>BASEBALL</h2>	<h2>PHOTORY & PUNNERS</h2>
<p>NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago 11, St. Louis 9; Los Angeles 3, Cincinnati 1; Montreal 6, Atlanta 1; Philadelphia 2, Florida 1 (12 runs); New York 6, Pittsburgh 1 (10 runs); San Francisco 1, Houston 0; Colorado 11, San Diego 4.</p> <p>AMERICAN LEAGUE: Detroit 8, Milwaukee 4; Cleveland 4, Baltimore 2; Minnesota 5, New York 2; Boston 7, Toronto 5 (10 runs); Chicago 1, California 0; Kansas City 2, Oakland 2 (10 runs); Seattle 7, Texas 4.</p>	<h2>BOXING</h2>
<h2>BASKETBALL</h2>	<p>BETHNATH GIBSON: British welterweight champion, 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) ALVIN KATZ: 140 lbs. (140 lbs.) 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Loder scales new heights with group win

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

DAVID Loder's first full season reached new heights at Ascot yesterday when he saddled Prince Of Andros to a narrow but thoroughly deserved victory in the group three Hoover Cumberland Lodge Stakes.

The attacking, battling qualities of Prince Of Andros' head-on defeat of Bobzoo epitomised Loder's own approach to the sport, which has ruffled a few feathers among the Newmarket trainers.

This first group victory sets the seal on Loder's achievements to date. With 45 winners, he has already eclipsed Robert Armstrong's first-season total of 43, achieved in 1973, the best Newmarket total since the war. Such notable residents as Henry Cecil and Geoff Wragg (27), Loder's most recent tutor, have been left in his wake.

He had nothing but praise for Prince Of Andros yesterday. The three-year-old, having his start since his debut in July, swept past long-time leader Muhayana, two furlongs out before resting the luckless Bobzoo's desperate late challenge.

"That will do him for the season," the trainer said. "He does just enough and is quite a deceptive horse. He's had all sorts of problems with bone chips in his joints and knees, and it's taken him time to get the hang of things."

Plans to send Prince Of Andros for a North American

campaign have now been shelved in favour of another domestic season, when the top middle-distance races will be on his agenda. Not had for a horse whose initial entries in June were for selling races.

Prince Of Andros has been particularly well handled by Franco Dettori, who hopes to continue the association next year, even though John Gosden will have first claim on the young Italian's services. Gosden, who sent out Meadow Pippit to collect the Bishops Gate Stakes for apprentices, yesterday spoke warmly about his forthcoming association with Dettori. "I've known him ever since he came to California where Gosden used to train to ride out for me there," Gosden said. "His style is reminiscent of Chris McCarron, and it's pretty obvious he's a young rider on the way up. That's what you need — a long-term partnership."

The Newmarket trainer also refuted suggestions that his relationship with Michael Roberts, Sheikh Mohammed's jockey since 1993, had turned sour. "There have never been any personal differences between us," he said. "Ideally we would all have liked to wait until the end of the season, but Frankie had a serious offer to ride in France so it couldn't be done. This has been an unfortunate and sometimes unpleasant experience, but I'm glad it's all over."



Rambo's Hall, second left, completing a notable debut in the Hoover Rated Handicap at Ascot

Gosden has yet to finalise his challenge for the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes tomorrow, for which Kingmambo was yesterday confirmed as an intended runner. Luca Cumani was still reluctant to commit Baratheas to the race, but expressed himself pleased with the colt's final gallop at Newmarket yesterday.

Cumani's Blue Seal Stakes representative, Verdigris, could not improve on her trainer's first record in this juvenile filly's event. She could finish only fourth behind Peter Walwyn's new arrival, Tablah, who appeared the most backward of the eight runners.

Meanwhile, the dual Cam-

bridgeshire winner, Rambo's Hall, is now 8-1 favourite, from 12-1 with William Hill, the race sponsors, to complete the treble.

The Jeremy Glover-trained eight-year-old beat He's A King impressively to collect the Hoover Rated Handicap for the second year running and picks up a 5lb penalty for

the first leg of the autumn double. Yesterday's success was a surprise 47th birthday present for Glover, who said: "I feared he wouldn't be spot on today, having spent five days in his box with a foot abscess about two weeks ago. I'm sure he's between 7lb and 10lb better on straight tracks like here and Newmarket."

Mildmay-White leads way with subtle approach

By the year 2000, will the Jockey Club have joined White, Brooks's and the Athenaeum as exclusive refuges where members prefer to concentrate on the vintage of port rather than worry about exercising power?

Or will Portman Square emerge from the recent upheaval that spawned the British Horseracing Board (BHB) as an enlightened regulator enjoying the respect and confidence of its members, racing and beyond as it enforces the rules and upholds the integrity of the sport?

The answer, in large part, depends on Anthony Mildmay-White, a traditional countryman who forsakes the family estate on the Devon-Cornwall border three days a week to head for London and his role as chairman of the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee.

Mildmay-White, 45, is under no illusions. He is "immensely aware" that his performance and that of his colleagues on such a high-profile committee will have a direct bearing on the future role of the Jockey Club as the 21st century beckons.

The case for transferring the

Disciplinary chairman talks to Richard Evans about high-profile role

club's remaining powers to the BHB, sooner rather than later, grows apace — fuelled, it must be said, by some board members. What is the point, it is argued, of having two separate authorities running the sport? Why should the BHB, set up as the sport's governing body, be powerless, for example, to prevent another Grand National fiasco due to the Jockey Club retaining responsibility for regulating horse races and race meetings? Critics also wonder why a Jockey Club that has failed to catch a horse doper in living memory should continue to be responsible for security, let alone discipline and rules.

Add to that a belief that the disciplinary committee has often appeared autocratic aloof, resistant to sensible change and out of touch with the real world while holding its enquiries in secret and the obstacles facing the articulate disciplinary

chairman make Becher's look like child's play.

The Cambridge-educated Mildmay-White is not a crusading chairman — "my own style is different to some of my predecessors." After Darryll Holland appeared at Portman Square recently over his misuse of the whip, Mildmay-White announced he would be having a meeting with the young jockey, his agent and Jimmy Lindsay to explain to Holland where his American style of riding could breach the new whip rules.

Such an informal and helpful gesture, together with the quarter studied video tapes of Holland's riding style, would have been unthinkable not so long ago. A similarly sympathetic approach was adopted towards Alan Munro when he appeared before the disciplinary committee over the whip.

Mildmay-White's style reflects a determination to be more open, more communicative, to explain, to educate and to reassure a sometimes-doubting racing public. "I would like to break down the barriers — I will never achieve it totally — between 'them and us'.

between the disciplinary committee and particularly trainers, jockeys and, hopefully, the press."

Although he believes opening up disciplinary enquiries to the public and press would prejudice the quality of justice and hinder getting at the truth, he said: "I have some sympathy with the argument that the public and the press are in the dark at times about what happens." To that end, more information about enquiries is likely to be forthcoming.

On the same theme, his committee has approved in principle a scheme, based on Irish practice, requiring trainers to inform stewards after a race any reason why their horse ran badly below form. The information would be relayed over the racecourse public address system and to betting shops.

Mildmay-White will soon receive proposals to change rule 153, one of the most criticised within racing, which leads to winning horses being disqualified if they are found to have caused interference due to the careless or accidental riding of their jockeys. A further whiff of reform could come from a fine-tuning

review of the entire rule book being carried out by David Pipe, the club's director of public affairs.

The subtle change in style and substance will not satisfy everyone, especially the power-hungry elements within the BHB. "When the BHB was set up they didn't wish to take on the integrity and discipline side and it is not included in their short, medium or long-term objectives, so they must be happy with us carrying on," he said. "My own belief is that the Jockey Club does have the ability to stand back from the industry when maintaining discipline and integrity and is not in danger of ever being compromised for commercial reasons."

While Mildmay-White is convinced the present split in functions between the Jockey Club and the BHB is right for racing "at the present time," he will not speculate on what will happen by the turn of the century. By then, he could be senior steward of the Jockey Club, although he insists his present job is the summit of his ambitions at Portman Square. "I have risen to the level of my own incompetence," he joked. Time will tell.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE RACE MEETINGS

Ascot

2.00 (7m) 1. PETARDIA (M) 3-1 (fav); 2. Castellan (K) 4-1 (fav); 3. Humm (M) 5-1 (fav); 4. ALDO (M) 6-1 (fav); 5. Scurry (M) 7-1 (fav); 6. Wragg (M) 8-1 (fav); 7. Wragg (M) 9-1 (fav); 8. Wragg (M) 10-1 (fav); 9. Wragg (M) 11-1 (fav); 10. Wragg (M) 12-1 (fav).

2.30 (7m) 1. RAMBO'S HALL (P) 8-1 (fav); 2. Rambo's Hall (P) 9-1 (fav); 3. Rambo's Hall (P) 10-1 (fav); 4. Rambo's Hall (P) 11-1 (fav); 5. Rambo's Hall (P) 12-1 (fav); 6. Rambo's Hall (P) 13-1 (fav); 7. Rambo's Hall (P) 14-1 (fav); 8. Rambo's Hall (P) 15-1 (fav); 9. Rambo's Hall (P) 16-1 (fav); 10. Rambo's Hall (P) 17-1 (fav).

2.45 (7m) 1. PRINCE OF ANDROS (P) 8-1 (fav); 2. Prince of Andros (P) 9-1 (fav); 3. Prince of Andros (P) 10-1 (fav); 4. Prince of Andros (P) 11-1 (fav); 5. Prince of Andros (P) 12-1 (fav); 6. Prince of Andros (P) 13-1 (fav); 7. Prince of Andros (P) 14-1 (fav); 8. Prince of Andros (P) 15-1 (fav); 9. Prince of Andros (P) 16-1 (fav); 10. Prince of Andros (P) 17-1 (fav).

3.00 (7m) 1. TABLAH (W) 8-1 (fav); 2. Tablah (W) 9-1 (fav); 3. Tablah (W) 10-1 (fav); 4. Tablah (W) 11-1 (fav); 5. Tablah (W) 12-1 (fav); 6. Tablah (W) 13-1 (fav); 7. Tablah (W) 14-1 (fav); 8. Tablah (W) 15-1 (fav); 9. Tablah (W) 16-1 (fav); 10. Tablah (W) 17-1 (fav).

3.30 (7m) 1. SAFETY IN NUMBERS (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Safety in Numbers (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Safety in Numbers (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Safety in Numbers (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Safety in Numbers (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Safety in Numbers (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Safety in Numbers (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Safety in Numbers (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Safety in Numbers (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Safety in Numbers (M) 17-1 (fav).

3.45 (7m) 1. PRIVATE HANDICAPPER'S TOPPING (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Private Handicapper's Topping (M) 17-1 (fav).

4.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

4.15 (7m) 1. MEADOW PIPIT (P) 8-1 (fav); 2. Meadow Pippit (P) 9-1 (fav); 3. Meadow Pippit (P) 10-1 (fav); 4. Meadow Pippit (P) 11-1 (fav); 5. Meadow Pippit (P) 12-1 (fav); 6. Meadow Pippit (P) 13-1 (fav); 7. Meadow Pippit (P) 14-1 (fav); 8. Meadow Pippit (P) 15-1 (fav); 9. Meadow Pippit (P) 16-1 (fav); 10. Meadow Pippit (P) 17-1 (fav).

4.30 (7m) 1. WINDUP (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Windup (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Windup (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Windup (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Windup (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Windup (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Windup (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Windup (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Windup (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Windup (M) 17-1 (fav).

4.45 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

4.55 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

5.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

5.15 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

5.30 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

5.45 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

6.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

6.15 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

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7.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

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7.45 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

8.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

8.15 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

8.30 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

8.45 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

9.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

9.15 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

9.30 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

9.45 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

10.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

10.15 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

10.30 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

10.45 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

11.00 (7m) 1. ALZANAH (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Alzanah (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Alzanah (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Alzanah (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Alzanah (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Alzanah (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Alzanah (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Alzanah (M) 15-1 (fav); 9. Alzanah (M) 16-1 (fav); 10. Alzanah (M) 17-1 (fav).

Pent

2.18 (7m) 1. MEADOW PIPIT (P) 8-1 (fav); 2. Meadow Pippit (P) 9-1 (fav); 3. Meadow Pippit (P) 10-1 (fav); 4. Meadow Pippit (P) 11-1 (fav); 5. Meadow Pippit (P) 12-1 (fav); 6. Meadow Pippit (P) 13-1 (fav); 7. Meadow Pippit (P) 14-1 (fav); 8. Meadow Pippit (P) 15-1 (fav); 9. Meadow Pippit (P) 16-1 (fav); 10. Meadow Pippit (P) 17-1 (fav).

2.30 (7m) 1. RAMBO'S HALL (P) 8-1 (fav); 2. Rambo's Hall (P) 9-1 (fav); 3. Rambo's Hall (P) 10-1 (fav); 4. Rambo's Hall (P) 11-1 (fav); 5. Rambo's Hall (P) 12-1 (fav); 6. Rambo's Hall (P) 13-1 (fav); 7. Rambo's Hall (P) 14-1 (fav); 8. Rambo's Hall (P) 15-1 (fav); 9. Rambo's Hall (P) 16-1 (fav); 10. Rambo's Hall (P) 17-1 (fav).

2.45 (7m) 1. PRINCE OF ANDROS (P) 8-1 (fav); 2. Prince of Andros (P) 9-1 (fav); 3. Prince of Andros (P) 10-1 (fav); 4. Prince of Andros (P) 11-1 (fav); 5. Prince of Andros (P) 12-1 (fav); 6. Prince of Andros (P) 13-1 (fav); 7. Prince of Andros (P) 14-1 (fav); 8. Prince of Andros (P) 15-1 (fav); 9. Prince of Andros (P) 16-1 (fav); 10. Prince of Andros (P) 17-1 (fav).

3.00 (7m) 1. TABLAH (W) 8-1 (fav); 2. Tablah (W) 9-1 (fav); 3. Tablah (W) 10-1 (fav); 4. Tablah (W) 11-1 (fav); 5. Tablah (W) 12-1 (fav); 6. Tablah (W) 13-1 (fav); 7. Tablah (W) 14-1 (fav); 8. Tablah (W) 15-1 (fav); 9. Tablah (W) 16-1 (fav); 10. Tablah (W) 17-1 (fav).

3.30 (7m) 1. SAFETY IN NUMBERS (M) 8-1 (fav); 2. Safety in Numbers (M) 9-1 (fav); 3. Safety in Numbers (M) 10-1 (fav); 4. Safety in Numbers (M) 11-1 (fav); 5. Safety in Numbers (M) 12-1 (fav); 6. Safety in Numbers (M) 13-1 (fav); 7. Safety in Numbers (M) 14-1 (fav); 8. Safety in Numbers (M)

World tunes in as Europe awaits battle of Belfry

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NOT everyone in golf is consumed by what is about to unfold on some former potato fields on the outskirts of Birmingham: the Ryder Cup. A roguish band of American amateurs recently arrived in Britain for golf — but to play at Macrahanish, that delectable course on the west coast of Scotland, not to watch it at The Belfry.

Earlier in the week, a team of Australasian players faced up to a team of Australasian caddies at cricket. "That's the story of the week, mate," Greg Turner, the New Zealander and brother of Glenn said. "To hell with this Ryder Cup thing."

Tell that to the marines! Around 30,000 spectators each day since Monday have thought otherwise and nearly a thousand journalists have converged on The Belfry to report the thirtieth Ryder Cup, which starts at 8 o'clock this morning. BBC television will screen every hole of every match and its transmission will be shown in 60 countries.

When Samuel Ryder, of the forbidding moustache and gruff voice, donated a trophy to be played for between the United States and Britain, he could hardly have envisaged it would grow to the size of the event this year. As recently as ten years ago, the matches in the Ryder Cup at West Palm Beach were accompanied by few more than the one man and his dog.

This Ryder Cup is the most important there has been. Why? Let Severiano Ballesteros explain because, as Nick Faldo said: "Seve has been the major person in the Ryder Cup these past ten or 12 years." Ballesteros said: "We are playing for our national pride. We are playing for the supremacy of the game. It's the best competition in golf, including the majors. It brings more attention than any other competition."

At the start of the week, the Americans were favourites in my mind. At the end of the week, the Europeans have edged in front. Why? The Americans have too many team members who are not in good form. Only six of their team have won tournaments this year compared with ten of the European twelve. Of Europe's ten, seven have won more than once since January.

On the United States money list, only six Ryder Cup men are in the top 14 and nine in the top 25. John Cook is 49th, Larry Wadkins 64th and Ray Floyd is, well, Floyd is 113th, virtually off the scale as he plays on the senior tour. As one American cynic put it, in a barbed reference to the shorter courses the seniors play on: "When was the last time Floyd used a long iron?"

Floyd, 51, will use a long iron over the next few days — many times. At nearly 7,200 yards, the Brabazon course is a long slog, the more so

because of heavy rain. It is much longer than it was in both 1985 and 1989, for example. It has six par-fours of more than 420 yards and, at one of them, the famous 18th, not one of Corey Pavin, Larry Wadkins, Jim Gallagher Jr and Chip Beck could get their second shots up to the top tier of this green where the flag was placed yesterday.

Floyd's contribution to the team may be greater in the dark moments of stress when all his innate competitiveness and experience will be invaluable than in the bright moments of success. At 51, the oldest man to play in a Ryder Cup, he will be lightly and strategically raced. Floyd is the soul of the American team, its heart as well, the only man on it to have been a captain as well as a player, the man around whom they will circle their wagons if they need to.

The man who fulfils this role for Europe is Ballesteros and it is him, his brooding, electrifying and stimulating presence, that has caused me to conclude that Europe will

and went for the green instead. He missed and, when Faldo playfully darted at his back pocket to claim the bet, Ballesteros sprinted down the fairway.

It is for what Ballesteros brings to the European team and for the adoration he extracts from the spectators that he has such an important role. It is one he has fulfilled brilliantly this week and this is one, though not the only, reason why Europe have moved to a position of narrow favourites.

Another is that this team has strength all the way to the bottom. It is no longer the case that the captain has to send eight or nine men out again and again. "The European team used to have two or three weak players," Ballesteros said. "From best to No 12 is now pretty equal. Overall this must be our strongest team."

A third reason is that if there is anyone who is intimidating to another player it is Faldo and Ballesteros to an American rather than an American to a European, as has so often been the case. Mark James, who possesses a dry wit, put it thus with a face that was so straight it could have superglued: "The only thing that scares me about these Americans is the clothes they wear."

In practice, one of Ballesteros's tasks was to boost Olazábal's morale and he went at it with a will that puts one in mind of the Biblical quotation that Sam Ryder used when he broadcast to the Americans in 1931: "Whosoever the hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

Ballesteros put his hand to it with might. No matter that Fred Couples had just declared that Faldo was the best player in the world because "there is no course that can beat him. Nick is intimidating because he plays so well all the time. That's why he is the best in the world."

For the purposes of his exercise, Ballesteros named Olazábal as the world's best, the complete golfer. "He is young and straight. He is a good putter. He is cool, good under pressure. He is young and strong." Olazábal's mother might have balked at such a statement but Ballesteros was trying to raise Olazábal's self-esteem. It was an important task and was only finished, like the team practice, just before the flag raising ceremony.

If Ballesteros has worked the oracle with Olazábal, and the two of them are as powerful a strike force as in previous Ryder Cups, then they will be the bedrock on which Europe's victory will be built. There are grounds for suggesting, however heretical it might seem, that their partnership is about to run its course and that its crumbling will be one reason why the Americans will win.

It was at the flag raising ceremony just after 4pm on an overcast afternoon that the two captains revealed their pairings for the opening four-somes today. Both played strong hands. Gallacher rested his four rookies, Watson trusted only one — Davis Love III — to this most demanding passage of play. In the end, how Gallacher marshals his rookies and how they cope under pressure, compared with how Watson marshals his and the way they perform, may be the single most significant factor in this Ryder Cup.

Intimidation, tactics and psychology have been the key words all week. Gallacher has not put a foot wrong, even managing to disagree with Watson's grudging statement that Faldo was one of the best players in the world in a way that could not offend. Watson's sole blemish was his gaffe in not signing his autograph on Sam Torrance's menu at the gala dinner — a mistake (his word) for which he graciously apologised several times.

In 1931, in that aforementioned broadcast, Sam Ryder said: "I look upon the Royal and Ancient game as being a powerful moral force that influences the best things in humanity. I trust the effect of this match will be to influence a cordial, friendly and peaceful feeling throughout the whole civilised world." One can only say: "Hear, hear."

John Hopkins gets a designer's eye view of the two most discussed and testing holes on The Brabazon course

Dave Thomas steered the buggy back up the hill and, when it had nearly reached the tee of the famous tenth hole on the Brabazon course at The Belfry, he swung the steering wheel hard round so that he was looking back towards the green.

In the late summer sunlight, it could have been the scene of an oil painting. Four golfers were making their way down the fairway, pulling trolleys behind them, their heads bowed in conversation. The sycamore tree that leans like a person in a queue looking to see what is going on ahead of him, appeared taller than its 60ft. The beeches, oaks and mountain ash trees nearby looked barely penetrable.

Thomas gazed at the hole he and Peter Alliss had designed more than 20 years ago and pointed to where the 11th tee now is. "That was where we were going to put the tenth green," Thomas said. "Then we thought about it a bit more and realised the attraction of putting the green over the water and making them play into it."

He turned around. "The original tee was way back there, over the path," he said, gestulating back towards the eponymous hotel. "From there, it was a classic lay-up hole, a two-iron or four-wood from the tee and a wedge to the green. The green was never hit from that tee. But after a couple of years, they needed to enlarge the putting green and so the tee was moved to here. It was from here that Greg [Norman] and Seve [Ballesteros] drove the green. The hole was about 310 yards long and it was about 280 yards across the dog-leg."

The tee used this week is well forward of the one from which Norman and Ballesteros hit their heroic shots. It is, in fact, a ladies' tee but nobody is saying much about that because of the incongruity of having such distinguished players driving from such a tee.

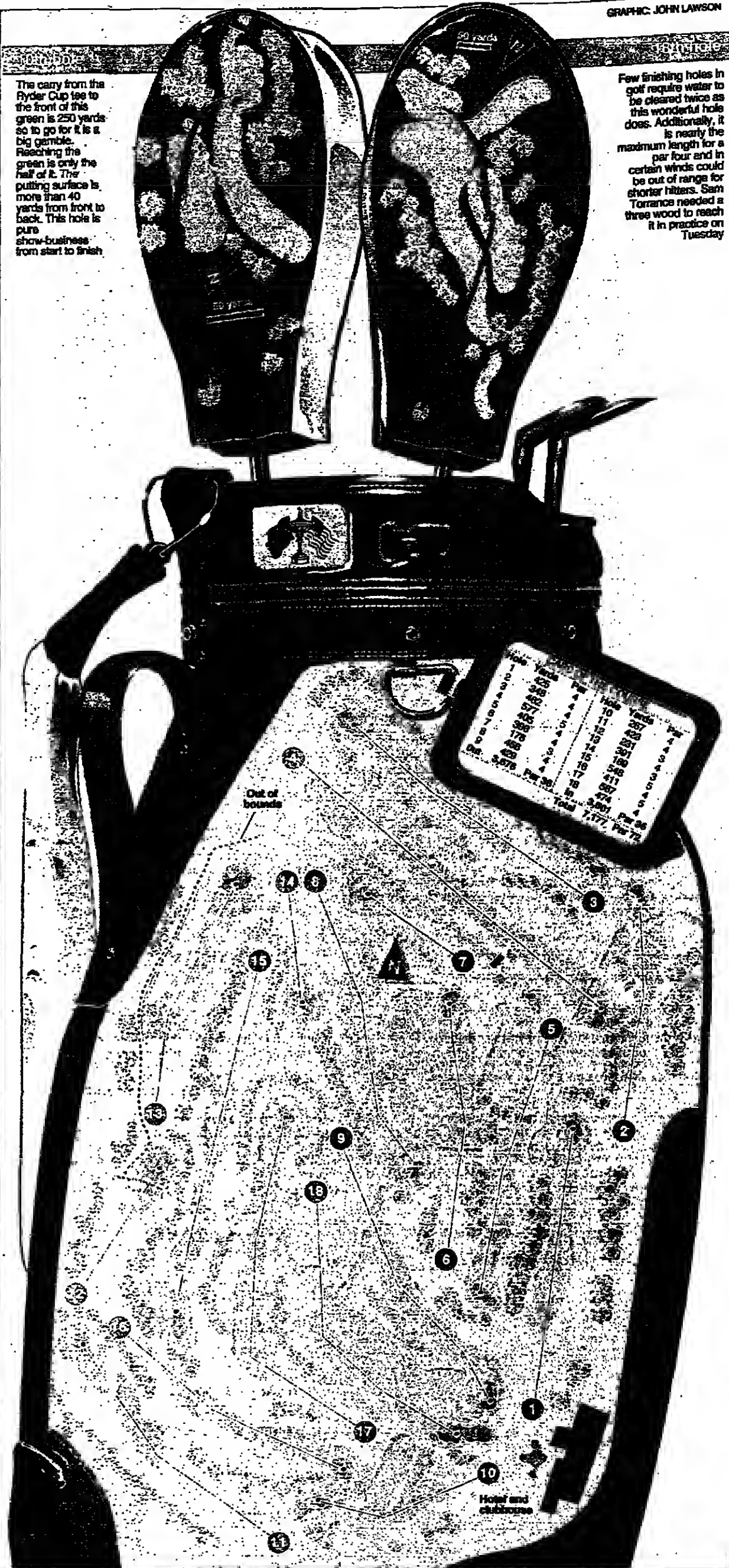
"You've got the ultimate challenge here and that is the water," Thomas said. "Either you carry it or you don't. There are no two ways about it. It is a test of skill and courage. In matchplay, it's the ultimate psychological situation. You come off the ninth green one up, walk on to the tee, pull out your driver and smash it on to the green. Your opponent grimaces, decides he has to go for it himself, misses it and you're two up, thank you very much."

Thomas released the brake and the buggy began to chug off in the direction of the 18th tee, the start of one of the best finishing holes in European golf. As he drove, he smiled, as well he might. The 10th and 18th had assured his reputation as a course designer.

"Early on, there was a lot of talk about a championship course and signature holes and all that sort of thing," he said in a voice that is surprisingly soft for such a big man and, even more surprisingly, for one who has lived in Spain for decades, still has hints of his Welshness about it. "But in my view, it's not a championship course until it holds a championship. Then you see what happens and what people say."

Thomas stationed the buggy by the 18th tee and surveyed the view. Even he was surprised at the number of trees that had grown up on what had been potato fields not so many years ago. "When we designed the course, we knew we had to get the putting for the 18th back over the water. That was paramount. I think we did that all right, don't you?"

He looked over the water to the fairway beyond. "The secret if you're unsure of yourself is to block the shot out to the right," Thomas explained. "Of course, if you do that, you bring the water in



for a second time. A properly hit tee shot will leave a three or four-iron and the water should not come into it."

At least it should not but such is the pressure in the Ryder Cup that Payne Stewart, Nick Faldo, Mark Calzaghe, Paul Azinger and Ballesteros hit their balls into the water in 1989 as Andy North and Ray Floyd had done four years earlier.

The buggy rolled on slowly, past the slightly modified fairway bunkers, and pulled up short of the lake. The narrow green that is 180 feet from front to back. "The lake is dug out back towards the fairway," Thomas said. "I didn't want the water to be too near

the front because that would have given the green a steep face and a ball could easily spin or roll back into the water. That would have been unfair. How would you have got back on from there? So there is some land between the lake and the green. There were only two tiers on the green once but then I added a third to drag the clubhouse in visually."

As golfers have found, to reach the putting surface in two strokes and two-putt gives a feeling of euphoria that remains in the memory for ever. You have faced the challenge and beaten it. Did Thomas mind? "Not at all," he said, smiling. "Good luck to you. Well done."

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Floyd: experienced

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- 1927: Worcester, Massachusetts, US vs GB, 9-2-2. Captains: US, W Hagen; GB, E Hagan.
- 1929: Moonbown, GB vs US, 7-5. Captains: GB, G Duncan; US, W Hagen.
- 1981: Solihull, Ohio, US vs GB, 9-3. Captains: US, W Hagen; GB, C Whitcombe.
- 1982: Southampton and Ardsale, GB vs US, 8-6-6. Captains: GB, J H Taylor; US, W Hagen.
- 1983: Ridgeview, New Jersey, US vs GB, 9-3. Captains: US, W Hagen; GB, C Whitcombe.
- 1937: Southampton and Ardsale, GB vs US, 4-8. Captains: GB, C Whitcombe; US, W Hagen.
- 1947: Portland, Oregon, US vs GB, 11-1. Captains: US, A Hogan; GB, M Cotton.
- 1948: Garsington, GB vs US, 7-5. Captains: GB, C Whitcombe; US, B Hogan.
- 1951: Preshutt, North Carolina, US vs GB, 9-6-2. Captains: US, S Sneed; GB, A J Leary.
- 1953: Winkworth, GB vs US, 5-6-6. Captains: GB, H Cotton; US, L Mangrum.
- 1955: Thunderbird, California, US vs GB, 8-4. Captains: US, C Herbert; GB, O Rees.
- 1957: Urethorpe, GB vs US, 7-4-4. Captains: GB, O Rees; US, J Burke.
- 1958: Eldorado, California, US vs GB, 8-3-3. Captains: US, S Sneed; GB, D Rees.
- 1961: Royal Lytham, GB vs US, 9-14-12. Captains: GB, D Rees; US, J Barber.
- 1962: Alderley, Gloucestershire, US vs GB, 22-9. Captains: US, A Palmer; GB, J Fallon.
- 1965: Royal Birkdale, GB vs US, 12-14-12. Captains: GB, H Westman; US, B Nelson.
- 1967: Houston, Texas, US vs GB, 23-6-6. Captains: US, B Hogan; GB, O Rees.
- 1968: Royal Birkdale, GB vs US, 13-15. Captains: GB, E Brown; US, B Sneed.
- 1971: St Louis, Missouri, US vs GB, 18-14-13. Captains: US, J Barber; GB, E Brown.
- 1972: Muirfield, GB vs US, 13-13-13. Captains: GB, B Hogan; US, J Burke.
- 1975: Laurel Valley, Pennsylvania, US vs GB and Ireland, 21-11. Captains: US, A Palmer; GB and Ireland, B Hurd.
- 1977: Royal Lytham, GB and Ireland vs US, 7-16-12. Captains: GB and Ireland, B Hogan; US, D Prosser.
- 1979: Greenbriar, West Virginia, US vs Europe, 17-11. Captains: US, W Casper; Europe, J Jacobs.
- 1981: Walton Heath, Europe vs US, 10-16-16. Captains: Europe, J Jacobs; US, O Mar.
- 1982: PGA National, Florida, US vs Europe, 14-16-12. Captains: US, J Nicklaus; Europe, A Jochim.
- 1983: The Belfry, Europe vs US, 16-19-11. Captains: Europe, A Jochim; US, L Trevino.
- 1987: Muirfield Village, Ohio, US vs Europe, 12-16. Captains: US, J Nicklaus; Europe, A Jochim.
- 1988: The Belfry, Europe vs US, 14-14. Captains: Europe, A Jochim; US, H Floyd.
- 1991: Kemish Island, South Carolina, US vs Europe, 14-16-12. Captains: Europe, B Sneed; US, D Prosser.

Debutant faced with tough first match against experienced Europeans

Love prepares to make Spanish conquest

Patricia Davies meets
the enigmatic American
who will make his
Ryder Cup debut today

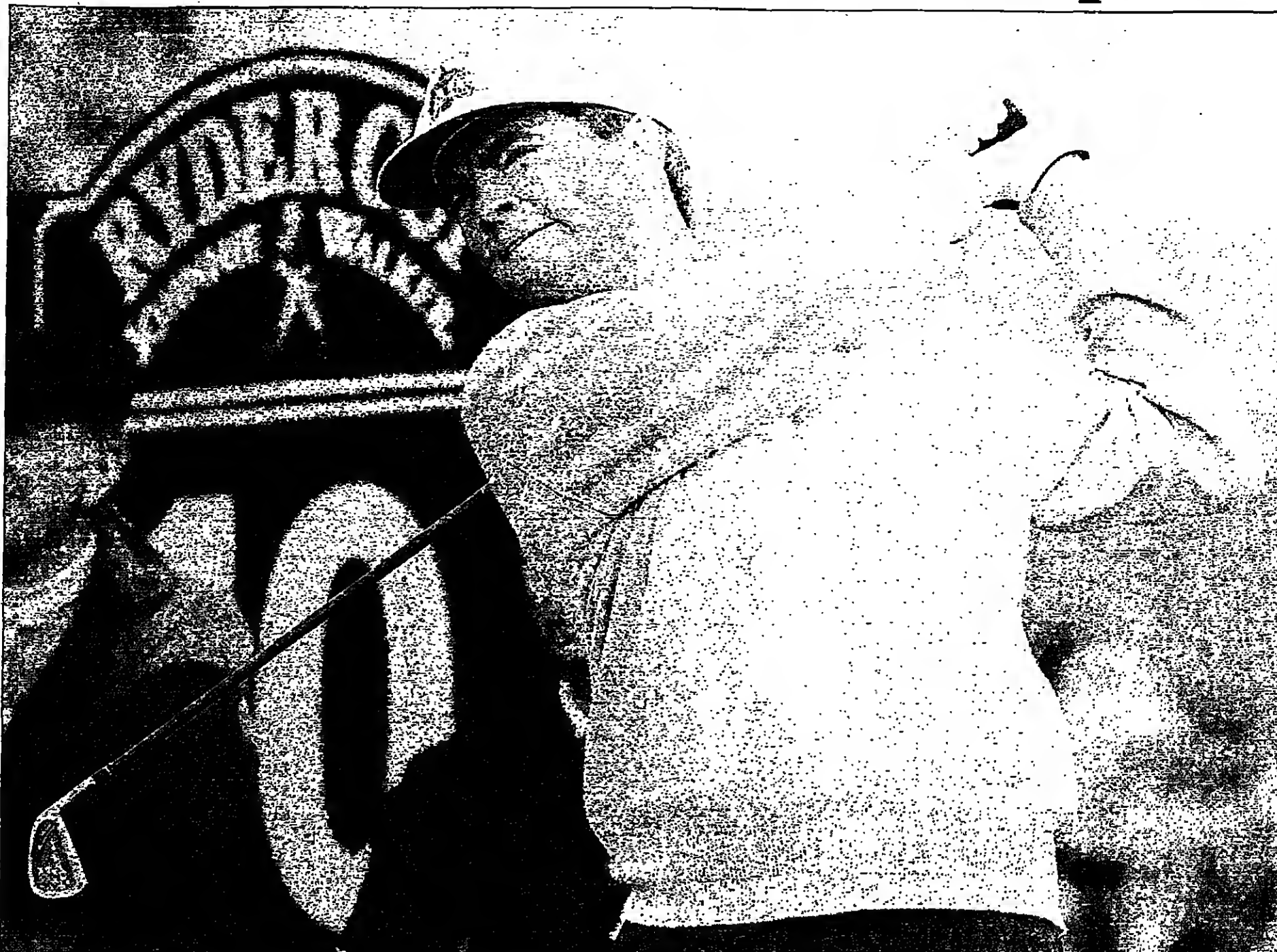
JOSÉ MARIA Olazábal left his mother at the edge of the putting green at The Belfry yesterday afternoon and went to work. No sooner had he settled himself over his first putt, however, than a long, lean figure towered over him, barely giving him room to swing, watching every move intently. It was Davis Love III, one half of the Spaniard's opposition in the opening foursomes this morning.

What was the American, a rookie at this exalted level, in fact the only rookie included in the opening shots, doing? Attempting to get his retaliation in first? Would there be a confrontation? Not a bit of it. Olazábal looked up and smiled, there were a few friendly words and Love loped away.

The big American is not the confrontational type. He is, by consensus, a nice guy, perhaps the nicest in the American team. He is competitive, of course, and he has a deep-seated desire to be the best player in the world, but he sees no need to be nasty about it. "We want to win this match as bad as anyone," he said, "but we also want to be friends with these guys. We have to see and play with these guys at the next international tournament and we don't want to carry a grudge against them."

Love, 29, who lives in Georgia, is courteous, and slow-talking. He hits the ball a long, long way — though not as far now as he used to in his younger days, when belting the ball miles mattered more than controlling it — and is capable of coping with The Belfry. In practice, even he needed to hit a three-iron after a good drive at the 18th, but once the adrenalin starts to flow, he might find himself flicking in a wedge.

Hugely talented, Love is, however, a bit of a golfing enigma. He has won lots of money — last year only Fred Couples won \$11 million faster, as the two of them dominated the early season tournaments — but he has yet to win a major championship. He and Olazábal are lumbered with



Love, who will partner Kite against Ballesteros and Olazábal when he makes his Ryder Cup debut for the United States today, practises at The Belfry yesterday

the unenviable tag of being the best players without a major victory to their name and Love has never come close. His record is curiously abysmal, but it is not for want of desire.

Earlier this year, when Johnny Miller made one of his now familiar "in my day" pronouncements, condemning the lack of ambition of the modern American player,

Love was furious and rejected the criticism out of hand.

"Johnny Miller doesn't know us," he said, "and we want to win just as badly as he did. I want to be the best golfer in the world. I just don't shout about it all the time." He dearly wants to win the Open, his father finished sixth behind Tony Jacklin at Lytham in 1969.

Not surprisingly, Love took

quite a time to recover from the death of his father, who was also his teacher, in a aeroplane crash, in 1988. It threw him personally and professionally, but David Leadbetter, another teacher of note, though not of Love, thinks it is only a matter of time before he wins the major he craves. "He's a tremendously talented ball striker and he just has to develop the

temperament to win a big one. Most players mature in their thirties, so he's got time."

Today, Love will be in the company of Tom Kite, his friend and mentor, in an event that could prove the making of him, just as it did Couples four years ago. Love's father asked Kite to keep an eye on his boy on tour, making sure he did the right thing and handled

himself well. They play a lot together and their pairing was, Love said, "pretty much given."

Tom Watson, the United States captain, thought the match against Olazábal and Seve Ballesteros, Europe's hitherto virtually unbeatable, talismanic pairing, could be critical. "If we would win that match..." he said. "I've had a few words with Davis but of

course he's not very relaxed. You can't be very relaxed going into your first Ryder Cup."

Kite has been coaxing Love, born with a solemn countenance, to smile more on the course over the years but it will not be something he will insist on this morning. He will settle for some serious hitting and a few good putts. The smiles can wait until later.

CUP FACTS

Those who have excelled

□ **MOST APPEARANCES:** 10: Christy O'Connor (Ire), 1955-73; 9: Dai Rees (Wales), 1955-61; 8: Billy Casper (US), 1961-75; Nick Faldo (Eng), 1977-91; 7: Sam Snead (US), 1937-59; Larry Wadkins (US), 1977-91; Ray Floyd (US), 1969-84.

□ **BIGGEST WINNING MARGINS:** US: 23½-8½ (Houston, 1967); GB and Europe: 16½-11½ (The Belfry, 1985).

□ **BIGGEST WINS:** Four-omes: US: Walter Hagen and Densmore Shute vs George Duncan and Arthur Havers, 10 and 9 in 1931 (36 holes); Ed Oliver and Lew Worsham vs Henry Cotton and Arthur Lees, 10 and 9 in 1947 (36 holes); Hale Irwin and Tom Kite vs Ken Brown and Des Smyth, 7 and 6 in 1979 (18 holes); Paul Azinger and Mark O'Meara vs Faldo and David Gifford, 7 and 6, GB and Europe: Aubrey Somers and Charles Whitcombe vs Leo Diegel and Bill Mehlhorn, 7 and 5 in 1927 (36 holes); José María Olazábal and José Rivera vs Kite and Calvin Peete, 7 and 5 in 1985 (18 holes).

□ **FOURBALLS** (all 18 holes): US: Lee Trevino and Jerry Pate vs Faldo and Sam Torrance, 7 and 5 in 1981, GB and Europe: Smyth and Carlzars vs Bill Rogers and Bruce Lietzke, 6 and 5 in 1981; Severiano Ballesteros and José María Olazábal vs Tom Watson and Mark O'Meara, 6 and 5 in 1989.

□ **SINGLES:** US: Leo Diegel vs Abe Mitchell, 9 and 8 in 1929 (36 holes); Kite vs Howard Clark, 6 and 7 in 1989 (18 holes); GB and Europe: Duncan vs Hagen, 10 and 8 in 1929 (36 holes); Bernard Hunt vs Jerry Barber, 5 and 4 in 1961 (18 holes); O'Connor vs Frank Beard, 5 and 4 in 1969 (18 holes); Peter Dawson vs Don January, 5 and 4 in 1977 (18 holes); Bernhard Langer vs Hal Sutton, 5 and 4 in 1985 (18 holes).

□ **MOST WINS:** US: 22: Arnold Palmer, 20: Casper, 18: Wadkins, 17: Jack Nicklaus and Trevino, GB and Europe: 17: Faldo and Ballesteros, 14: Peter Oosterhuis, 13: Bernard Gallacher and Tony Jacklin.

□ **MOST DEFEATS:** US: 15: Floyd, 10: Casper, 9: Curtis Strange, GB and Europe: 21: Neil Coles and O'Connor, 18: Bernard Hunt, 18: Peter Allis.

□ **BEST PARTNERSHIP:** Ballesteros and Olazábal (9 wins, 2 halves, 1 defeat).

□ **OLDEST PLAYERS:** US: 49: Floyd (1991); GB and Europe: 50: Ted Ray (1927).

□ **YOUNGEST PLAYERS:** US: 21: Horton Smith (1929); GB and Europe: 20: Faldo (1977).

Europe

Peter Baker (Eng)

Age: 25
Ryder Cups: None.
Former golden boy who lost some of his lustre for a while, gaily giving in to gurus. Always approachable, even in the bad times. Reduced to two guns — one for swing, one for mind — and less confused now.

Severiano Ballesteros (Sp)

Age: 36
Ryder Cups: 1979, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91.
Record: P 30, W 17, H 5, L 8.

If you want a driven man, this is the one. Ballesteros is the universal golfing term for charismatic, his intensely religious for his fervour. Not a man to have against you in a tournament, but a man to have against you in a bar.

Nick Faldo (Eng)

Age: 32
Ryder Cups: 1977, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91.
Record: P 31, W 17, H 2, L 12.

Whispers that he was less than committed to the team at Kiawah Island hurt. He is determined to have a great Ryder Cup and when he is determined, stand back. Jaw set, eyes focused and stride at maximum, he will create havoc without even noticing.

Joakim Haeggman (Swe)

Age: 24
Ryder Cups: None.

Admirable command of Anglo-Saxon languages. Personable, ebullient, confident. Wielded such a mean tee shot that he broke his own tee last year and missed a "weekend" golf. A bit of a comedian, but has a solitary streak. Likes fishing.

Mark James (Eng)

Age: 39
Ryder Cups: 1977, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91.
Record: P 15, W 11, H 1, L 11.

Might have been an astronaut if he had not launched himself into space as a golfer. Youthful propensity for believing Lady Luck was riding with him. Gradually submerged by natural humour and decency. Smart, sunny, gregarious. Good company.

Barry Lane (Eng)

Age: 33
Ryder Cups: None.

A quiet soul, one of life's nice guys. Fretted about being the only automatic selection not to win this year. Out victory in Switzerland boosted his confidence. Modest. Took him time to believe in himself. Now considers he is "more than just a reasonable player".

Bernhard Langer (Ger)

Age: 35
Ryder Cups: 1981, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91.
Record: P 25, W 11, H 5, L 9.

Nerves of steel, will of iron. Not as

United States

Paul Azinger

Age: 33
Ryder Cups: 1989, 91.
Record: P 9, W 5, L 4.

A money-making machine, with over \$8 million (about £3.3 million) in career earnings. Also a serious match player, unbeaten in six singles. Not the man you want to play. However, the best form of the game is to be seen. Wants to be the best there is and has the determination to do it. Expectation expected before too long.

Chip Beck

Age: 37
Ryder Cups: 1989, 91.
Record: P 7, W 4, H 1, L 2.

Someone kindly said he made Sandy Lyle look like a nuclear physicist, but his "crucible of frustration" phrase was a classic. A happy soul, his rose-coloured view of life enrages gumps. Still thinks today is the 15th at Augusta west OK.

John Cook

Age: 33
Ryder Cups: None.

An engaging guy, but not a happy camper. Brew the 1992 Open and held up his hands and admitted it. Felt he would be a better player for it, which means he will be pretty damped good.

Fred Couples

Age: 33
Ryder Cups: 1989, 91.
Record: P 7, W 3, H 3, L 3.

Ah, Freddie Gottweck, the American newspaper, called him "Mr Cool on the outside, but Mr Fried on the inside". He thinks golf can make you mental and he goes crazy inside sometimes. Otherwise, the game is pretty easy.

Ray Floyd

Age: 51
Ryder Cups: 1969, 75, 77, 81, 83, 85, 91.
Record: P 27, W 9, H 3, L 15.

Big and mean. An ageing Inferno. Do not play him for money and do not ask him to reminisce about the days when he managed a topless band. Has played in two matches since his stint as non-playing captain. Maybe mellowed but positively not Mr Nice Guy.

Jim Gallagher Jr

Age: 32
Ryder Cups: None.

Watched the match at Kiawah "with tears in my eyes and my fingernails gone" and knew the only thing he wanted was to be on the next team. The darkest of dark horses.

Lee Janzen

Age: 29
Ryder Cups: None.

Perhaps a surprise as US Open champion so soon but a potential great. Champion to soon but a potential great. Champion to soon but a potential great.

Tom Kite

Age: 43
Ryder Cups: 1979, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89.
Record: P 24, W 13, H 4, L 7.

A money-making machine, with over \$8 million (about £3.3 million) in career earnings. Also a serious match player, unbeaten in six singles. Not the man you want to play. However, the best form of the game is to be seen. Wants to be the best there is and has the determination to do it. Expectation expected before too long.

Davis Love III

Age: 29
Ryder Cups: None.

Another pleasant soul, perhaps the nicest guy on the team, according to those in the know. His ball miles but not a bit. Not blessed with great natural ability but he works hard and can be chip and putt. Left the torse cap at home this time.

Corey Pavin

Age: 31
Ryder Cups: 1991.
Record: P 3, W 1, L 2.

Very religious, very intense. Hugely respected, almost revered, by his peers because he gets the absolute most out of not a lot. Not blessed with great natural ability but he works hard and can be chip and putt. Left the torse cap at home this time.

Payne Stewart

Age: 38
Ryder Cups: 1987, 89, 91.
Record: P 12, W 5, H 1, L 6.

Stylish swing, ply about the American football courts. Ungracious, ever ready to whip out the mouth organ and join in a jam session. A party animal. Goes down very well at the Carlsberg Men Open. A team troublemaker should not miss a starter career.

Lanny Wadkins

Age: 43
Ryder Cups: 1977, 79, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91.
Record: P 30, W 19, H 2, L 10.

Privately characterised with a huge reputation as a competitor without control. Won US PGA championship, his only major victory, 18 years ago. That's a wonder. Could be used of day his slotted down too much for his being: loves to scorch around.

Tom Watson

Non-playing captain
Age: 44
Ryder Cups: 1977, 81, 83, 89.
Record: P 13, W 10, H 1, L 4.

Five times Open champion. A devoted romantic when it comes to being captain of his country but no record. He was completed without enough competitive fire to by waste the Kansas premier. Apologised unreservedly to Sam Torrance for his autograph game. Looks you in the eye and will talk earnestly and long. A class act.



Gallacher: streetfighter



Haeggman: confident



Cook: engaging



Watson: romantic

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Wales will keep welcome for joyous Japanese

I SHOULD declare my interest. I have a warm spot for the Japan rugby team. Mind you, this affection may be the result of breath-taking vanity. Last summer, outside Eden Park in Auckland, awaiting the final match between the British Isles and the All Blacks, there stood a contingent of Japanese supporters who had flown in for the match. They searched for autographs and photographs. They talked effusively, with unrestrained and smiling zeal, about the game to come. They knew their onions.

But why should this swell the chest of a Welshman? Only that they, old and young, remembered Wales' loss to their country in 1975. Moreover, the leader of the group rattled off, there and then, without repitition or hesitation, the names of the players in the Welsh team who played

in Osaka and Tokyo that year. From Windsor and Faulkner to Edwards and Bennen, he was without fault. That afternoon's Lions and All Blacks teams were a piffing matter. It has to be recorded that I failed to reciprocate with their national team. There lies the difference. Once committed, their national disposition insists on their concern for detail.

Arriving on Sunday, the Japanese are back in Wales for a six-match tour. Their first game is against a Wales A team in Llanelli on Wednesday. It is ten years since their last tour and a further ten years before that for their first visit to Cardiff Arms Park. In 1975, Wales made their only trip to Japan. In this way, Wales can be said to have introduced them, as indeed they did with Fiji back in 1964



GERALD DAVIES
Rugby commentary

and Tonga in 1974, to the wider international arena. They did much the same with Western Samoa, when New Zealand and Australia, for selfish reasons, had ignored them. To mention Western Samoa, no longer has quite the same relish — after all, it is they who forced Wales into having to qualify for the next World Cup — yet it remains one of sport's curiosities that these countries should have been drawn towards rugby. The claustrophobic scrum and maul do not take easily to sun and heat.

Japan retain enduring fascination. They exude such an undiluted enthusiasm for rugby. Of all teams, they are the most open-hearted and it is a love that is not rooted in success. If Wales could score 56 points in Osaka and 82 in Tokyo, this did not diminish their enthusiasm. Not even when a New Zealand XV accumulated 106 points in 1987. They survived these results with their exuberance as indefatigable as ever.

This tenacity was rewarded in 1983, when the margin against Wales closed to 29-24.

Where is the Japanese player who has been sent off? When has Japan's honour, on the rugby field, been tarnished?

We can admire their meticulous application against most of the odds. Their stature does not lend itself comfortably to rugby. While they can apply the principles of mechanics to the scrum and where they return moderate success, the lineout is a perennial problem. They are destined to be disadvantaged by their genes.

Yet, even here, they have mastered a few techniques which, ensure, through variety, that they are not totally overwhelmed. Would that the countries of these islands were as assiduous as Japan. I look forward to their visit. Even in adversity, they may show us a thing or two. They have done so in the past.

Hill facing conflict of loyalties in Portugal

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN ESTORIL

A BOLDER, braver Damon Hill last night warned Frank Williams that he may disobey team orders in the Portuguese grand prix here on Sunday in the pursuit of his outside chance of snatching the drivers' world championship from his Williams-Renault team-mate, Alain Prost.

Emboldened by three successive victories, loath to abandon the title when even the slightest hope remains, the 33-year-old Englishman says he is torn between the prospect of individual glory and his duty to the team.

His future may also be at stake. Williams has made it plain both that no decision will be made on who partners Prost next season until the championship is settled and that he would like to see it decided as soon as possible. With Prost 23 points ahead, it is clear where his priorities lie.

"It is an extraordinary situation for me," Hill said, blink-

man's engine failure at Monza a fortnight ago to seal a third victory. He must now win two races, finish at least third in the other and hope Prost has a series of pointless outings to win the title.

He knows his chances of wresting the championship from his team-mate are slim and that to disobey Williams could harm his chances of retaining his prized drive next season, especially as Ayrton Senna is lurking in the wings. Yesterday, Hill wrestled only with the conflict between the cavalier spirit embodied by his late father, Graham, and his responsibilities to the team.

"I am in a Catch-22 situation," he said. "If I take a pawn here in Estoril, I might lose the game. But the history of motor racing seems to suggest to me that it is the most selfish drivers who are the most successful."

"In England, everybody has been saying to me, 'You can go on and win it now' and I really want to do it for them. I know I only have an outside chance, especially when you consider Alain's record, but my attitude has always been that if I have got a chance, then go full steam for it and take it."

"My problem is that there are implications in that. There are a lot of considerations and some of them concern the team. I am thinking about my career, and I want to be in the best position next year, and hopefully with a more realistic chance of winning the championship."

"When the season started, nobody expected I would do so well, so in a way I have achieved what I set out to do. But I do not want to rest on my laurels, especially here, where I carried out so many miles of testing for Williams last winter."

Hill's dilemma seems likely to overshadow the welcome re-emergence of the Finn, Mika Hakkinen, for McLaren here in the wake of Michael Andretti's departure from the team last week.

Hakkinen, 24, one of the sport's brightest prospects after his season with Lotus in 1992, has spent most of the year as Formula One's highest-paid test driver after Senna's belated decision to race this year deprived him of a drive.

"It's not been frustrating for me at all," Hakkinen said yesterday. "I have learnt a lot about the car. There will definitely be pressure on me on Sunday, but I am just happy to be racing again."



Hill: three victories

ing in the sunshine at this track in the hills near Sintra. "I have upset the script by doing as well as I have done. This was not in the story-line."

"It is conceivable that I would disobey team orders, I would suggest you watch the race very carefully to that end. I have been doing a lot of testing and turning in my sleep and I am trying to consider what is the best move. It is a bit of a world chess championship position."

At the beginning of August, it seemed that Prost would have claimed his fourth world championship before the European season ended here, and the Formula One circus moved on to Japan and Australia.

But then Hill claimed his maiden victory in Hungary on August 15, won again in Spa, Belgium, with Prost third, and then capitalised on the French-

Pulling power attracts warring factions



FREUD ON FRIDAY

There are sound reasons for staging a European championship at Minehead. The town has an impeccable civil rights record, a nearby Butlin's holiday camp provides diversions for the competitors' nearest and dearest, the weather is benign and the natives are friendly.

On the debit side, it is 25 miles from the nearest railway station and, coming by road from Taunton, you encounter a three-mile queue of vehicles between Washford and Dunster waiting at road-work lights that allow a couple of dozen cars to file by every two minutes.

Yesterday was by common consent ideal pulling weather: overcast and not too hot for this strenuous sport and the terrain was soft enough to afford footholds, also soft enough to reduce the Minehead AFC groundsman to tears... though in the Hire of Venue for tug of war contract, there is financial provision for "reinstatement of ground" — this looked as if a platoon of moles had indulged in synchronised underground swimming.

Two thousand contests take part over the four days. Twelve national flags flutter from the grandstand and around the recreation ground, one encounters Dutchmen with hooters, Swiss with cowbells, surly Welshmen, grim Scots, gemütliche Germans, extrovert Channel Islanders, introvert Ulstermen, a smattering of bemused debutant Israelis and three men whose tracksuit jackets bore the legend *Frantilla and Berri — erriteigen* — and could have come from anywhere.

Teams consist of eight pullers, a coach and a medicine man who massages limbs, carries a small cauldron of resin and a blowtorch to warm this sufficiently to rub on the contestants' hands.

Resin stops the rope from slipping. Resinous hands and one's weight inscribed in marking ink on the thigh is the hallmark of a tug of war contestant, or someone wanting to be mistaken for one.

Judges are the kingspins of the contest. The judge wears a



A Swiss women's team tugs for victory yesterday. Photograph: Tim Cuff

peaked cap, holds a whistle in his mouth, stands with feet apart either side of the centre mark but sufficiently away from it to afford complete supervision of both teams by moving his eyes rather than his head.

Pick up the rope, says he, take the strain. Then, when he is sure the centre of the rope is over the mark on the ground, "pull". Both teams attempt to pull their opponents the four metres required for victory within the rules of the contest.

In the event of infringements, the judge issues a caution — initially, by calling "first caution" and pointing a single finger at the offending team. Then, "final caution" (two fingers), whereafter, for a further offence, he blows his whistle to signify disqualification.

In the comprehensive handbook of the Tug of War Association, Section II, infringements are lettered from (a) to (m); thou shalt not sit — without returning immediately to the pulling position; thou

shalt not lean so that you touch the ground. Propping the rope, climbing it (passing it through the hands), rowing (sitting while moving feet backwards) or making incidents before the command to take the strain are punished "as is any conduct by word or act that is likely to bring the sport into disrepute", which is why the air is full of Monica Seles-like grunts and nowhere do you hear bad words such as damn or bum.

Day one of the European championships involves the 520kg women and 560kg and 680kg men's teams, the latter being 88st in old money.

The teams come on, pick up the rope, strain, pull, grunt, grimace, heave, gain, concede and then one or other receives the winners' whistle and they change ends.

Each contest is over three pulls. The winners of the eight groups contest the quarter-finals and so on to the gold, silver and bronze.

After each contest, the winning team walks past the

vanquished, each shaking each other's hand, and this is followed by three modulated hip-hips from both sides.

In the Sixties and Seventies, Wood Treatment (Booley) Ltd, of Cheshire, walked away with every prize that was not nailed to the ground. No more. As with post-Liverpool football, the sport is open again. Killough, of Ireland, British Aircraft Corporation and GNR, a Cornish club, are distinctly useful.

After a few bouts, you notice that the winners are those standing at 45 degrees to the ground, like tent-pegs, while the losers' angle is more acute.

The cafeteria serves hot sausage sandwiches for 50p, which are good and nutritious — inexpensive, also 50p cups of tea — not nearly as good value.

A coconut shy is there for old time's sake and a burly gurdy just in case the walk to Butlin's proves too far for the men and women in their bespoken boots that have smooth soles and metal heels.

SPORTS BRIEF

New captain plays himself into office

LORD Griffiths made British sporting history yesterday when he was installed as the new captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St Andrews. He is the first man to hold the post while also president of MCC. Lord Griffiths played himself into office in traditional fashion by driving the first ball on the final day of the club's Autumn medal, the stroke being accompanied by a single blast from a cannon standing alongside the first tee.

The ball was returned by a local man, Bob Webster, who has been caddyng at St Andrews for the past 30 years, and he received a gold sovereign from the new captain as his reward. Hugh Griffiths was commissioned in the Welsh Guards in 1942 and awarded the Military Cross in 1944. At Cambridge University, he won blues for both golf and cricket. A member of the Royal and Ancient since 1981 — he is also a member of the Sunningdale club as well as Shanklin and Sandown — he was appointed as a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary in 1985 and is a privy counsellor.

St Helens confident

RUGBY LEAGUE: St Helens were confident of a successful sortie into the transfer market last night. They were hoping to sign Andy Dannatt, 27, the former Great Britain prop forward, from Hull, after the club's earlier failures to capture Scott Gibbs from rugby union and Peter Jackson, the Australian international three-quarter (Christopher Irvine writes). Dannatt made the last of his three international appearances against France in 1991, but has not played this season. He is listed at £150,000 by Hull and the fee will probably be decided by an independent tribunal.

Widnes field only six of the side beaten by Wigan in the Challenge Cup final last May in tonight's Stones Bitter Championship match at Central Park. Wigan are reinforced by the return of Shaun Edwards at scrum half and Gary Connolly will make his long-awaited debut after his return from Australia.

McManus breaks spell

SNOOKER: Alan McManus became the first Scottish player to win a match in the Regal Masters for three years when he beat Dennis Taylor 5-2 in the first round of the event at Motherwell yesterday. (Phil Yates writes). Since Stephen Hendry beat Terry Griffiths 10-6 in the 1990 final, local players have suffered nothing but disappointment. Although Taylor won the first frame, McManus then took control. In the quarter-final, he will play Neal Foulds, the holder. "It's good for the public here that one of us has won a match. It keeps the interest going," he said.

Le Moignan on course

SQUASH: Martine Le Moignan, 30, the former women's world champion, yesterday advanced to the semi-finals of the world open championship in Johannesburg by defeating Suzanne Horner 9-0, 5-9, 9-7, 10-8 in a 50-minute all-English semi-final. However, Cassandra Jackman, the English champion, lost 8-10, 1-9, 9-1, 10-8, 9-6 in 58 minutes to Sabine Schöne, of Germany. For Le Moignan, the semi-final place provides further hope of a second world title to add to her 1989 win before she withdraws from the international circuit this year.

British rivals clash

CYCLING: Chris Boardman and Graeme Obree, the British rivals, will compete against each other in the Bordeaux six-day race from November 10 to 15. Thierry Lacarriere, the event's organiser, said yesterday, "We have signed a contract with the two athletes guaranteeing their presence," he said. Boardman, the Olympic pursuit champion and one-hour world record-holder, and Obree, who devised a revolutionary bike and riding style to take the pursuit world championship title and the 4km world record, have both turned professional and are two of the biggest cycling draws in France.

Henman moves on

TENNIS: Tim Henman, of Oxford, continued his successful run at the LTA men's satellite tournament in Sheffield with a convincing 6-2, 6-4 victory over the top seed, Miles MacLagan, from Scotland, yesterday. Henman, who produced the best form of his career, is joined in the semi-finals by Jeffrey Hunter, from Surrey, who beat Jason Sher, of South Africa. Danny Sapsford was defeated by Steven Herdoux, from the United States, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3. In the women's event, Virginia Humphreys-Davies reached the semi-finals by beating Caroline Herbert 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Coutts regains lead

YACHTING: Eddie Warden-Owen, of England, finished the third day of the world match racing championship in Perth, Australia, in third place yesterday. In near-perfect conditions, the champion, Russell Coutts, of New Zealand, regained the lead, after 11 wins from 14 races, having beaten Bertrand Pace, of France, by one second. The overnight leader, Ed Beard, from the United States, is second with ten wins, ahead of Warden-Owen, on nine. Chris Law, of England, is eighth. Seven skippers have a chance of making the semi-finals tomorrow.

Marshall beaten

SQUASH: Peter Marshall, the England No 1, bowed out of the Dubai Classic in the quarter-finals when he was beaten 15-9, 15-13, 15-9 by Rodney Eyles, of Australia. Marshall, 22, from Nottingham, who is ranked world No 5 and one place above his opponent, started well and took a 3-0 lead in the opening game. But Eyles then played brilliantly to book a semi-final place against Rodney Martin, also from Australia. Phil Whitlock, from Manchester, defeated Angus Kirkland, of Brighton, the surprise player of the tournament, 15-14, 15-13, 15-2 to reach the last four.

Bracken to compete against Hill

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

KYRAN Bracken, the Bristol and England A scrum half, has been named in the South and South-West divisional training squad, having opted for them in preference to the North. He finds himself amid a clutch of three Bath scrum halves, headed by Richard

Hill, so long the first choice for the division. The other two are Marcus Olson and Simon Johnson.

The South-West, divisional champions last season, open against the Midlands on October 16 and play the North a week later before their en-

counter with the New Zealanders at Redruth. Bracken must surely be perceived as first choice by the selectors and will benefit playing alongside the experienced Stuart Barnes, the divisional captain.

The vexed question of eligibility must be balanced by the benefits to individual players. Craig Millhouse, who has won a place in Northampton's back row this season, is one of four open-side flankers in the South-West squad of 48, but may be no better than third choice behind Andy Robinson and Derek Eves. However, the Midlands, for whom he is also eligible, may be able to offer him a game on November 6.

When it comes to representative rugby, players are obliged to make minute calcu-

lations to discern where best to play. The South-West are making inquiries into Eric Peters's availability, now that the former Cambridge University captain has joined Bath. Peters, a No 8 or blind-side flanker, was impressive as both captain and player on the Oxford tour to South Africa. □ Norman Hadley, the Canadian international lock who is qualifying for Wasps, has been chosen by the Barbarians for their match against Exeter on Tuesday as replacement for the injured Scotland international, Andy Reed. Cameron Glasgow moves from wing to stand-off half to replace Eric Elwood, who has broken ribs. John Sleightholme, of Wakefield, takes Glasgow's place.

Business as usual despite new look

BY ALIX RAMSAY

THE women's national hockey league, which starts on Sunday, may have a new look and a new format, but it is likely to be business as usual when the honours are handed out next April.

The competition has been extended from 22 to 24 clubs, split into three smaller divisions of eight teams, but by reducing the size of the premier division from 12 clubs to eight, the All-England Women's Hockey Association has created a greater gulf between the top clubs and the rest.

With only one team to be promoted and relegated, it gives little opportunity for the lower divisions to gain experience against the leading players. The league will be played on a home and away

basis, but, again, with fewer clubs, it increases the playing schedule by only three games. Most clubs are happy with the prospect of two meetings with each opponent, but Jane Sixsmith, of Sutton Coldfield, still has reservations about the system.

In the premier division, it will be the same few players playing each other every week," she said. "I can't see any relegated team staying down for more than one season and any club coming up is going to get hammered."

Ipswich, the title-holders, have bolstered their back line with two new defenders and a reserve goalkeeper, but they have decided not to re-appoint Toby Mullins as coach after one trial season last year. His

place will be taken by Helen Bray.

Slough, who have won the title three times in the last four years, have solved some of their personnel problems, topping up their sparsely-populated team-sheet with Kate White, Kate Scott and Anna Bennett.

Sutton Coldfield have only the league on which to concentrate. For the first time in several seasons, they have added to their squad, bringing in Helen Wally from Colwall, Helen North from Ealing and Helen Atkinson from Highways.

Yet Karen Brown's tip for the championship is Highways. Efficient, consistent and driven by the determination of Maggie Souvay,

their player coach, they have their eyes fixed firmly on the league, the cup and the European indoor championships.

□ Joyce Whitehead, who was women's hockey correspondent of *The Times* for nearly 30 years, has died after a long illness. She was 77. Whitehead was involved with hockey for most of her life, captaining Leicestershire after the second world war and playing for the Midlands and England A. She was editor of *Hockey Field* and was one of the instigators of bringing coachloads of school children to Wembley for the international match each year. The funeral will take place at St George's Church, Kenocot on Tuesday, September 28.

AUTOSPORT PORTUGUESE GRAND PRIX
Grand Prix Line
Full details and qualifying times on Friday and Saturday, with warm-up and post race reports from Sunday's race at ESTORIL.
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CHANNEL 4

- 6.30 **Healthfirst.** Animated adventures of a crafty cat (280927) 6.45 **Wowser.** Canine cartoon series (403961)
- 7.00 **The Big Breakfast** presented by Chns Evans and Gabby Rossin (34637)
- 9.00 **Bill and Ted's Excellent Life.** Game show hosted by Bill Cosby (3) (30219)
- 9.30 **Schools** (589415)
- 12.00 **Profiles of Nature: The Grouse Family.** Tom Stierling, a ornithologist from Jackson, Michigan, spent five years studying grouse and their habits (161895163)
- 12.30 **Sesame Street** (1) (54521) 1.30 **The Bluffers.** Animation (1) 161895163
- 1.50 **Home Concert For Three Fools.** A canonon from Bulgane about a chauntist-husband who gets his come-uppance (55218705)
- 2.00 **East of Eden.** The Devil, 1953, b/w, starring Humphrey Bogart, Jennifer Jones, Gita Laskobogida and Robert Moryle. Cmt comedy thirline uttered by Truman Capote and John Huston about a group of unapitely criminals involved in a rash of double-crossings concerning land in Alaska thought to contain uranium. With Peter Lonzo. Directed by John Huston (317231)
- 3.40 **The Blenheim International.** Highlights of one of the world's leading equestrian events, introduced by the French ambassador, Andre Muray (3487075)
- 4.30 **Countdown.** Richard Whitley with another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (3) (328)
- 5.00 **Vets In The Wild.** A repeat of Monday's last in the series celebrating the work of Dr Barkley Hastings. (Teletext) (6153)
- 6.00 **Wish Me Mr Cooper.** American comedy series starring Mark Curry, Holly Robinson and Dawnn Lewis. (Teletext) (3) (521)
- 6.30 **Happy Days.** Nostalgic comedy set in 1950s Milwaukee. Starring Henry Winkler. (Teletext) (8731)
- 7.00 **East of Eden.** With Joe Smith and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (14734)
- 7.50 **First Reaction.** Tony Parsons believes Madonna's *The Girtle Show*, which opens tomorrow at Wembley, will mark the beginning of the end of his career (3) (751322)
- 8.00 **Education Now.** The third of eight programmes investigating the latest educational controversies. (Teletext) (6540)
- 8.30 **Brookside.** Topical soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (3) (2347)
- 9.00 **Garden Club.** Roy Lancaster, Rebecca Pow and Michaela Horton. The long-fingered enthusiasts in Bolton. (Teletext) (3811)
- 9.30 **Cheers.** Comedy about the acenetic patrons and staff of a Boston bar (1) (Teletext) (46811)
- 10.00 **Nurses.** Black comedy set in a Miami hospital (Teletext) (3) (16628)
- 10.30 **Police in Blue Series.** The comic musings of the dead-pan funnyman. (Teletext) (3) (464250)
- 11.05 **Eurotrash** (3) See Choice (322873).



Ford and Hayworth in love triangle (11.40pm)

Ford and Hayworth in love triangle (11.40pm)

11.40 Film: *Glida* (1946, b/w) starring Rita Hayworth, Glenn Ford and George Macready. Seductive drama from the Love Goddesses season with Hayworth as the temptress who discovers her wealthy casino-owner husband has her former lover working for him. Directed by Charles Victor (775-434)

1.40am Trash Talk (D) (2584380). Ends at 2.10.

SATELLITE

5.00 *You and I Thought Your Parents Were Weird* (1985) 4.45 Comedy about a postmodern robot [55882]

6.00 *Crazy In Love* (1992) A seeming happy wife falls for a young photographer [55883]

7.00 *My Darling Clementine* (1946) Directed by Martha Coulling [17347]

10.00 *High Heels* (1991) Pic

Amidorov's melodrama about a mother, her daughter and their mutual love. With Victoria Beckham [55884]

12.00 *Demonic Toys* (1991) Five adults are stalked by turntables in this horror [55885]

13.00pm *Everybody Wins* (1990) 19.95

Everybody Wins is a political one (Nick Nolte) investigating the murder of prostitute (Debra Winger) Directed by Neil LaBute [55886]

14.00 *Midnight* (1991) 4.45

Amnesiac woman forgets a brilliant career until unlovely memories begin to come back. With Jane Seymour and Corbin Bernsen [55110] Ends at 4.45

SKY SPORTS

0.30 ABL; Nepheline 140:15;
of 1970-1991 (22621) 11.34
Tecton. (25073): 18.98—M.

[illegible]

4.00 Run Wild, Run Free |
story about a mule boy &

[illegible]

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

(77798) 8.00 KD's Court (26132) 8.30 WD's
Show (25453) 9.00 WE All Have Talent
(187054) 9.30 Special Delivery (43347) 10.00
The World of David The Gnome (12988) 11.00
Sheridan, Los and Bram's Elephant Show
(228965) 11.30 Eureka's Castle (84163)
(122303) WE All Have Talent (47163) 13.00
The World of David the Gnome (15540) 1.30
The World of the Gnomes (48434) 2.00
Sheridan's Dreamhour (2908) 2.30 Speedy
Delivery (1908) 3.00 Kablooz (123431) 3.00
Winners (19501) 4.30 Hey Dude (1144) 5.00
Carnegie Explains It All (1650) 5.30
Sheridan (15724) 6.00 Gus (2637) 6.30
77.00 Get The Picture (3999)

DISCOVERY

11.00pm Nature by Profession (7071) 1981
5.00 Sundae California Prunes Adventure

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